**What to Plant**

**Bedding Plants:** Plants that perform better in the cooler months include petunia, pansy, verbena, dianthus, strawflower, and lobelia. Protect from frosts and freezing temperatures. See: *Gardening with Annuals in Florida*

**Bulbs:** Many bulbs can be planted now. Provide adequate water to establish and protect from cold weather with mulch. Some to try are Amazon Lily, crinum, and agapanthus. See: *Bulbs for Florida*

**Azaleas:** With azaleas in full bloom this month, now is a great time to select varieties to add to the landscape. See: *Azaleas at a Glance*

**Vegetables:** Begin planting warm season crops this month. Bean, pepper, cucumber, tomato, and squash can be started while temperatures are cool. See: *Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide*

**Cold damage to Palms:** If cold weather has damaged palms, proper care may prevent loss of the palm and encourage recovery. See: *Cold Damage on Palms*

**Citrus:** Now is a good time to check citrus trees for scab disease. Apply a copper fungicide when new leaves appear and again when 2/3 of the flower blossoms have fallen. See: *Citrus Problems in the Home Landscape*

**Prune Roses:** Roses should be pruned this month to reduce and improve the overall form. After pruning, fertilize and apply a fresh layer of mulch. Blooming will begin eight to nine weeks after pruning. See: *Growing Roses in Florida*

**Shrubs:** Now is the time to fertilize shrubs. Spread fertilizer evenly over the soil surface and water in. Follow with a fresh layer of mulch, which will conserve moisture and reduce weeds. See: *Fertilization and Irrigation Needs for Florida Lawns and Landscapes*

**Lawn Weeds:** Apply a pre-emergent weed killer (not a weed and feed) to lawns this month to prevent germination of warm season weed seeds. Apply when temperatures rise to 65°F for 4-5 days. Timing is important for good control. See: *Weed Management in Home Lawns*

**Fertilize Citrus and other Fruit Trees:** If not done in January, fertilize trees now. Frequency and amount of fertilization depends on the age of the tree. See: *Citrus Culture in the Home Landscape*

**Deciduous Fruit for the Home Garden in Central Florida**

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**What to Do Every Month**

- Adjust irrigation based on rainfall.
- Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms.
- Monitor the garden for insects and disease.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established.
- Mow lawns at recommended heights:
  - St. Augustine & Bahia: 3-4”
  - Centipede: 1.5-2.0”
  - Dwarf St. Augustine: 2.5”
  - Zoysiagrass

**UF Resources For Gardeners**

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS) [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/]
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping [http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/]
- Solutions For Your Life [http://solutionsforyourlife.com]
- *Gardening in a Minute* Radio Program [http://gardeninginaminute.com]
- Florida Master Gardener Program [http://gardensolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/]
- Living Green [http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/]

Comments or suggestions?
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