



# Florida Gardening Calendar

**Comments or suggestions?**

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## February

## North Florida Edition

### What to Plant

**Bedding Plants:** Since temperatures can drop to freezing this month, new additions to the garden must be able to withstand cold. Plants that can take a chill include dianthus, pansies, and Dusty Miller. **See:** [Bedding Plants: Selection, Establishment and Maintenance](#)

**Bulbs:** Many bulbs can be planted now. Provide adequate water to establish and protect from cold weather with mulch. Some to try are dahlias, 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 for Florida](#)

**Vegetables:** Begin planting warm season crops this month. Cucumbers, peppers, and tomatoes can be started while temperatures are cool. Start as transplants indoors or provide protection outdoors. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

### What to Do

**Cold damage to Palms:** If cold weather has damaged palms, proper care may prevent loss of the palm and encourage recovery. **See:** [Treating Cold Damaged 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 remove damaged canes 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:** [Fertilizer Recommendations for Landscape Plants](#)

**Lawn Weeds:** Apply a pre-emergent weed killer to lawns this month to prevent germination of warm season weed seeds. Timing is important for good control. **See:** [Your Florida Lawn](#)

**Fertilize Citrus:** If not done in January, fertilize citrus now. Frequency and amount of fertilization depends on the age of the tree. **See:** [Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide](#)

#### 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"

#### UF Resources For Gardeners

- Solutions For Your Life  
<http://solutionsforyourlife.com>
- *Gardening in a Minute* Radio Program  
<http://gardeninginaminute.com>
- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS)  
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Florida Yards & Neighborhoods  
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
- UF Environmental Horticulture Dept.  
<http://hort.ufl.edu/>
- Florida Master Gardener Program  
<http://mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>
- Florida-friendly Landscaping  
<http://www.floridayards.org/>