**January Central Florida Edition**

### What to Plant

**Bedding Plants:** Plants that can be added to the garden during the coolest months include dianthus, pansy, petunia, viola, and snapdragon. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

**Bulbs:** Crinum, agapanthus, and gloriosa lily bulbs can be planted now. Provide a layer of mulch for protection from cold temperatures. See: [Bulbs for Florida](#)

**Camellias:** Select and plant camellias this month. Visit local nurseries now for the best selection of colors and forms. See: [Camellias at a Glance](#)

**Vegetables:** Continue planting cool season crops including beet, cabbage, turnip, lettuce, potato, and broccoli. See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

### What to Do

**Deciduous fruit:** Now is the time to plant deciduous fruit trees. This will give roots time to develop before the warm and dry spring months. See: [Deciduous Fruit for the Home Garden in Central Florida](#)

**Cold protection:** Frost or freezes are likely this month and next. Be ready to cover tender plants to minimize damage and make sure covers extend all the way to the ground. See: [Cold Protection of Ornamental Plants](#)

**Irrigation:** Lawns and landscape plants are dormant and need minimal irrigation. See: [Fertilization and Irrigation Needs for Florida Lawns and Landscapes](#)

**Shrubs and Trees:** Prune non-spring flowering shrubs and trees this month to improve form. See: [Pruning Landscape Trees and Shrubs](#)

**Arbor Day:** Florida observes Arbor Day on the 3rd Friday of January. To celebrate, plant a tree in your yard or community. See: [Arbor Day Foundation - Florida](#)

**Crapemyrtle:** While crapemyrtles do not require pruning, removing seed pods, crossing branches and small twiggy growth improves the appearance and form of the plant. See: [Crapemyrtle in Florida](#)

**Pests:** To control scale on citrus, shrubs, camellias, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant. See: [Landscape Insect Pest Management](#)

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

Comments or suggestions?

Dr. Sydney Park Brown  
spbrown@ufl.edu