



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

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October

Central Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: Even though temperatures are still warm, begin planting for the cooler months ahead. Digitalis (foxglove), petunias, and Shasta Daisy are good plants for the fall garden. **See:** [Bedding Plants: Selection, Establishment and Maintenance](#)

Bulbs: Plant Agapanthus, Zephyranthes, and many varieties of lilies now for blooms next spring or summer. Add organic matter to the planting hole for best results. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: A wide range of herbs can be planted from seeds or plants this month. Some to try are dill, fennel, oregano and sage. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

Vegetables: Plant crops now that will grow and produce throughout the winter months. This includes beets, Brussels sprouts, carrots, and onions. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Lawn weeds: The time to control winter weeds in lawns is before they appear. Pre-emergent herbicides must be applied at the right time to be effective. **See:** [Insect Management in Your Florida Lawn](#)

Fertilize ornamental trees and shrubs: This is the last month of the year to fertilize plants that aren't performing as desired. Slow or timed-release fertilizer provides nutrients over a longer period of time. **See:** [Fertilization and Irrigation Needs for Florida Lawns and Landscapes](#)

Fertilize lawns: Fertilize Bahia and St. Augustine lawns with a complete fertilizer. This is the last fertilization for these lawn types for the year. **See:** [General Recommendations for Fertilization of Turfgrass on Florida Soils](#)

Strawberries: Prepare beds and set strawberry plants this month. Strawberries also make a colorful and tasty container planting. Either way provide daily watering until plants are established. **See:** [Strawberries in the Florida Garden](#)

Winter landscapes: Evergreen hollies and their bright berries add color to the landscape when other plants have died back for the winter. Water well when planting and mulch to minimize weeds. **See:** [Hollies in Florida](#)

Twig girdlers: Small branches falling from oak and hickory trees may be the work of twig girdlers. To control, clean up and destroy fallen branches, which may harbor young twig girdlers. **See:** [Insect Borers of Trees and Shrubs](#)

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/>