**What to Plant**

**Bedding Plants:** Even though temperatures are still warm, begin planting for the cooler months ahead. Dianthus, petunia, and pansy are good annuals for the fall garden. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida]

**Bulbs:** Plant agapanthus, rain lily, and many varieties of lily now for blooms next spring or summer. Add organic matter to the planting bed 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 parsley, cilantro, chives, garlic, and sage. See: [Herbs in the Florida Garden]

**Vegetables:** Plant crops now that will grow and produce throughout the winter months. This includes beet, Brussels sprout, carrot, and onion. See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide]

**What to Do**

**Lawn weeds:** The best time to control winter weeds in lawns is before they appear. Pre-emergent herbicides must be applied when nighttime temps are 55°F-60°F for 4-5 days to be effective. See: [Weed Management in Home Lawns]

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

**Fertilize Bahia and St. Augustine lawns:** Choose a fertilizer (not a weed & feed) with little or no phosphorus unless a soil test indicates the need or it. A fertilizer with controlled-release nitrogen will give longer lasting results. This is the last fertilization for these lawn types for the year. See: [Bahiagrass for Florida Lawns]

**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 at a Glance]

**Planting Shrubs in Florida Landscapes**

**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]

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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

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**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://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/]
- Living Green  
  [http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/]

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Comments or suggestions?  
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