



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

Dr. Sydney Park Brown
spbrown@ufl.edu

January

South Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: Plants that can be added to the garden during the coolest months include begonia, browallia, lobelia, dianthus, dusty miller, and nicotiana. **See:**

[Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: Winter is a great time to plant bulbs that will bloom this spring. Some to try are Clivia lily, crinum, and agapanthus. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: Many herbs will thrive now that temperatures are cooler, including tarragon, thyme, dill, fennel, and any of the mints. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

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

What to Do

Rejuvenate the landscape: After the danger of freezing temperatures, it's a good time to plant woody shrubs. Water frequently to get new plantings off to a good start.

See: [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design](#) [Planting Shrubs in Florida Landscapes](#)

Irrigation: Plants may need water if temperatures remain higher than normal and rainfall is scarce. **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](#)

Cold Protection: If a frost or freeze is predicted, bring sensitive plants like orchids inside. Water sensitive plants in the landscape thoroughly 12-24 hours before a freeze and cover. **See:** [Cold Protection of Ornamental Plants](#)

[Cold Damage on Palms](#)

Pests: To control scale on citrus, shrubs, and deciduous fruit trees, apply horticultural oil while plants are dormant. Apply copper spray to mangos after bloom.

See: [Insect Management in the Home Garden](#)

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://gardeninginsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/>
- Living Green <http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/>