



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

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September

South Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: If summer beds need refreshing, try scarlet sage, nasturtium, celosia, and wax begonia for color into fall. **See:** [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: Plant gladiolus every 2 weeks to stagger blooming, staking each plant. Add color, texture and pattern to the garden with the many varieties of Elephant's Ear (Alocasia) available now. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: Plant herbs that tolerate the warm temperatures of early fall, such as Mexican tarragon, mint, rosemary, and basil. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

Vegetables: Prepare the fall vegetable garden. Using transplants from your local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds provide a wider variety from which to choose. Cool-season crops such as broccoli, cabbage, collards, and lettuce can be planted now. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Lawn problems: Continue to monitor the lawn for signs of insect damage. Fall armyworms, chinch bugs, mole crickets, and sod webworms are still active this month. **See:** [Insect Management in Your Florida Lawn](#)

Divide perennials and bulbs: Divide and replant perennials and bulbs that have grown too large or need rejuvenation. Add organic matter to planting beds and monitor water needs during establishment. **See:** [Propagation of Landscape Plants](#)

Fertilize lawns: Fertilize bermudagrass with controlled-release nitrogen (not a weed & feed) this month. Wait until next month to fertilize centipedegrass and bahiagrass lawns. **See:** [Bermudagrass for Florida Lawns](#)

Check irrigation system: Before summer rains taper off, check that irrigation systems are providing good coverage and operating properly. **See:** [How to Calibrate Your Sprinkler System](#)

Citrus: Fertilize citrus with a balanced fertilizer either this month or in October. Use controlled-release nitrogen as rain will not leach it from the soil too quickly. **See:** [Citrus Culture in the Home Landscape](#)

Shrubs: Consider placing native shrubs like beautyberry, marlberry, firebush, and dahoon holly where you can view the birds that enjoy them. **See:** [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design](#)
[Planting Shrubs in Florida Landscapes](#)

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/>