



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

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February

South Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: Many plants perform better in South Florida during the coolest months. These include impatiens, verbena, dianthus, strawflower, and lobelia.

See: [Bedding Plants: Selection, Establishment and Maintenance](#)

Bulbs: Many bulbs can be planted now. Provide adequate water to establish. Some to try are Amazon Lily, crinum, and agapanthus. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Ground Covers: Consider replacing areas of grass with drought tolerant, low maintenance ground covers. **See:** [Enviroscaping to Conserve Energy: Ground Covers for South Florida](#)

Vegetables: Begin planting warm season crops this month. Sweet potatoes, cantaloupe, eggplant and squash can be started while temperatures are cool.

See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Lawns: Apply a complete fertilizer to lawns this month now that growth has resumed. **See:** [General Recommendations for Turfgrasses on Florida Soils](#)

Citrus: Now is a good time to check citrus trees for scab disease. Apply a copper fungicide when new leaves appear and again when 2/3 of the flower blossoms have fallen. **See:** [Citrus Problems in the Home Landscape](#)

Prune Roses: Roses should be pruned this month to remove damaged canes and improve the overall form. After pruning, fertilize and apply a fresh layer of mulch. Blooming will begin eight to nine weeks after pruning. **See:** [Growing Roses in Florida](#)

Shrubs: Now is the time to fertilize shrubs. Spread fertilizer evenly over the soil surface and water in. Follow with a fresh layer of mulch, which will conserve moisture and reduce weeds. **See:** [Fertilizer Recommendations for Landscape Plants](#)

Lawn Weeds: Apply a pre-emergent weed killer to lawns late this month to prevent germination of warm season weed seeds. Timing is important for good control.

See: [Your Florida Lawn](#)

Fertilize Citrus: If not done in January, fertilize citrus now. Frequency and amount of fertilization depends on the age of the tree. **See:** [Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide](#)

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/>