

Alabama Gardener's Calendar

► Learn—month by month—the necessary gardening activities for lawns and shrubs, annuals and perennials, fruit and nut trees, and bulbs, roots, and tubers. Included is a timeline for activities such as soil testing, planting, pruning, fertilizing, pruning, mulching, indoor plantings—from cauliflower to okra, from camellias to dahlias to heirloom roses.

Fruits and Nuts

- Layer grapes and continue spray programs.
- Thin apples and peaches if too thick.

Shrubs

- Lace bugs may be a problem on azaleas, pyracanthas, dogwoods, cherry laurels, and other shrubs.
- Water as needed. Fertilize now.
- Keep long shoots from developing by pinching out tips.
- Take cuttings from semi-mature wood for rooting.

Lawns

- Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass. Skip this month for fertilizing centipedegrass and zoysiagrass.
- If dollar spot disease is detected, reduce water and fertilizer
- Mow often (5 to 10 days) to remove just 1/3 the grass height at each mowing.
- Water lawns as needed (grayish color or curling leaf blades).
- Planting may continue if soil is moist.





Annuals and Perennials

- Keep old flower heads removed to promote continued flowering. Plant garden mums if not already in.
- For compact mums, keep tips pinched out.
- Monitor for insects and diseases.
- Fertilize with water-soluble fertilizer for a mid-season boost.

Bulbs

- Foliage may be removed from spring bulbs if it has yellowed and is becoming dry.
- Watch for aphids and thrips on summer bulbs.

Miscellaneous

- If scale insects continue on shrubs, use materials other than oils.
- Set house plants on porch or outdoors in shade and pay close attention to the need for water.
- If desired, air layer house plants.

Vegetable Seeds

■ Whole state: Continue plantings of beans, sweet corn, southern peas, melons, and okra.

Vegetable Transplants

■ Whole state: Continue planting April transplant crops.

Questions?

Call the Master Gardener Helpline at (877) 252-4769. A Master Gardener Extension volunteer is waiting to answer your call.







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For more information, contact your county Extension office. Visit www.aces.edu/directory.

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