

Alabama  
Gardener's  
Calendar

## August

► **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**

- Cut out old blackberry canes after fruiting and then fertilize and cultivate for replacement canes.
- Remember to order new catalogs for fruit selection.

**Shrubs**

- Propagate woody plants, such as hydrangeas and azaleas, by layering.
- Do not fertilize woody plants in late summer. It will stimulate new growth that might not have time to harden off before winter's first frost.

**Lawns**

- Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass. Skip this month for fertilizing centipedegrass and zoysiagrass.
- Mow often (every 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).
- Stop fertilizing warm-season turf types at the end of the month.

**Roses**

- Keep roses healthy and actively growing.
- Lightly prune hybrid teas and floribundas to prevent a scraggly appearance.
- Old-fashioned roses will experience second bloom flush, so no need to prune these types.

**Annuals and Perennials**

- Water as needed. Plant perennials and biennials for spring.

**Bulbs**

- Divide old iris plantings and add new ones.

**Miscellaneous**

- Keeping flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns healthy is the major task during this month.
- Closely observe for insects and diseases.
- Water.

## Vegetable Seeds

- **Whole state:** Continue planting beans and squash.
- **Central and North:** Continue planting cole crops, beets, carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, Swiss chard, parsley, radishes, and turnips.

## Vegetable Transplants

- **South and Central:** Plant certified seed potatoes for Irish and red-skinned varieties until mid-month.
- **North:** Plant cole crop transplants that were started in July.

## 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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