

Alabama Gardener's Calendar

December

► 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

- Plant young pecan and other deciduous fruit trees and grapes.
- Select budwood.
- Start dormant pruning of established fruits.
- Protect all young trees from rabbit damage by placing wire around the base of the tree.
- Put on dormant oil sprays for scale.

Shrubs

- Planting is still the main activity but delay in case of freezing weather.
- Get your soil tested and be prepared for spring gardening.

Lawns

- Perform a soil test to determine if limestone is recommended and apply it any time this month.
- Dig out wild garlic, chickweed, *Poa annua*, dandelion, and other winter weeds.

Roses

- Add plants to rose garden.
- Mulch all plantings.

Annuals and Perennials

- Plant hardy annual seed without delay. Have you thought about violas?

Bulbs

- Continue spring bulb planting.



Miscellaneous

- Shrubs, trees, and indoor plants make excellent gifts.

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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