



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?
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April

South Florida Edition

What to Plant

Annuals: Plant heat-tolerant annuals, such as coleus, vinca, and portulaca. **See:** [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: Cannas thrive in the heat of summer. New varieties have colorful leaves as well as flowers. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: Add nasturtiums to your herb garden. The leaves and flowers add a peppery zest to salads. **See:** [Nasturtium, Garden - Tropaeolum majus L.](#)

Vegetables: Continue planting warm-season vegetables such as eggplant, southern pea, bush bean, sweet potato, and summer squash. Watch irrigation if the weather is dry. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Pests: When monitoring insect activity, know which bugs damage plants and which do not. **See:** [Insects Sheet 1](#) [Insects Sheet 2](#)

Identify and conserve beneficial insects: Some insects should be encouraged in your yard! **See:** [Beneficial Insects](#)

Flowering Plants: Damaged flowers on gardenias and roses may indicate thrips are present. **See:** [Insects Sheet 1](#)

Tomatoes: Watch for pests, disease, and nutritional disorders on developing tomato plants. **See:** [Tomatoes in the Florida Garden](#)

Palms: Identify and treat environmental and nutritional disorders in palm trees. **See:** [Palm Problems](#)

Oleanders: Chewed or ragged leaves indicate oleander caterpillars at work. **See:** [Oleander Caterpillar](#)

Fruits: Propagate fruit crops by air layering and grafting. **See:** [Propagation of Landscape Plants](#)

Divide perennials and bulbs: Divide clumps of bulbs, ornamental grasses, and herbaceous perennials to expand garden beds or to pass along to friends. **See:** [Propagation of Landscape Plants](#) [Gardening with Perennials in Florida](#)

Shrubs: Choose from a wide variety of shrubs to add to the landscape now. **See:** [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design](#) [Planting Shrubs in the Florida Landscape](#)

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/>