



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

Dr. Sydney Park Brown
spbrown@ufl.edu

July

Central Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: Summer annuals to plant now include celosia, coleus, torenia and ornamental pepper. **See:** [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: Butterfly lily and gladiolus are bulbs that can be planted during the middle of summer. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: While summer is too hot to start herbs from seeds, many will do well if started from small plants. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

Palms: Continue planting palms while the rainy season is in full swing. Support large palms with braces for 6-8 months after planting. Nails should not be driven directly into a palm trunk. **See:** [Transplanting Palms in the Landscape](#)

What to Do

Trees: Prepare for hurricane season by checking trees for damaged or weak branches and prune if needed. Hire an ISA certified arborist. **See:** [Pruning Young Trees](#) [Pruning Mature Trees](#) [International Society of Arboriculture](#)

Lawns: Determine the cause of any lawn problems before taking action. If an insect is the culprit, treat only the affected area. Rule out disease or sprinkler malfunction. **See:** [Insect Management in Your Florida Lawn](#)

Solarize the vegetable garden: Use summer heat as a tool in preparing the vegetable garden for fall planting. It takes 4-6 weeks to kill weeds, disease and nematodes, so start now. **See:** [Introduction to Soil Solarization](#) [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

Azaleas: Prune no later than mid-July to protect developing buds for next spring's bloom. **See:** [Azaleas at a Glance](#)

Irrigation: An inexpensive rain shut off device can save money by overriding an irrigation system when it rains. If one is already installed, check that it is operating properly. **See:** [Residential Irrigation System Rainfall Irrigation Shutoff Devices](#)

Pests on Ornamental Plants: Small white dots on the leaves of azaleas and other ornamental plants may indicate lacebugs at work. Spray forcefully with water to help control this pest. **See:** [Lacebugs on Ornamental Plants](#)

Citrus: Check citrus trees for damage to fruit or leaves and take action to minimize the effect of insects and/or disease on developing fruit or the overall health of the tree. **See:** [Citrus Problems in the Home 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/>