



Florida Gardening Calendar

September

Central Florida Edition

What to Plant

Bedding Plants: If summer beds need refreshing, try ageratum, celosia, zinnias, and wax begonias for color into fall. **See:** [Bedding Plants: Selection, Establishment and Maintenance](#)

Bulbs: Add color, texture and pattern to the garden with the many varieties of Elephant's Ears (*Alocasia*) available now. **See:** [Alocasia spp.](#)

Herbs: Plant herbs that tolerate the warm temperatures of early fall, such as Mexican tarragon, mints, rosemary, and basil. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

Vegetables: Start the fall planting season now. Plant cool season vegetable crops such as celery, cabbage, lettuce, and collards. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Lawn problems: Continue to monitor the lawn for signs of insect damage. Fall armyworms, chinch bugs, mole crickets, and sod webworms are still active this month. **See:** [Insect Management in Your Florida Lawn](#)

Divide perennials and bulbs: Divide and replant perennials and bulbs that have grown too large or need rejuvenation. Add organic matter to new planting areas and monitor water needs during establishment. **See:** [Propagation of Landscape Plants](#)

Fertilize lawns: Fertilize Bermudagrass with slow or timed-release nitrogen this month. Wait until next month to fertilize St. Augustine and Bahia lawns. **See:** [General Recommendations for Fertilization of Turfgrass on Florida Soils](#)

Check irrigation system: Before summer rains taper off, check that irrigation systems are providing good coverage and operating properly. **See:** [Lawn Sprinkler Selection and Layout for Uniform Water Application](#)

Citrus: Fertilize citrus with a balanced fertilizer either this month or in October. If the weather has been rainy, do not use soluble nitrogen as rains will leach it from the soil too quickly. **See:** [Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide](#)

Vegetable gardens: If not done in August, prepare the fall vegetable garden. Using transplants from your local garden center will get the garden off to a fast start, but seeds provide a wider variety from which to choose. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

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"

UF Resources For Gardeners

- Solutions For Your Life
<http://solutionsforyourlife.com>
- *Gardening in a Minute* Radio Program
<http://gardeninginaminute.com>
- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS)
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Florida Yards & Neighborhoods
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
- UF Environmental Horticulture Dept.
<http://hort.ufl.edu/>
- Florida Master Gardener Program
<http://mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>
- Florida-friendly Landscaping
<http://www.floridayards.org/>

Comments or suggestions?

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