**September Central Florida Edition**

### What to Plant

**Bedding Plants:** If summer beds need refreshing, try ageratum, coleus, celosia, zinnia, and wax begonia for color into fall. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

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

**Herbs:** Plant herbs that tolerate the warm temperatures of early fall, such as Mexican tarragon, mint, 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 controlled-release nitrogen this month. See: [Bermudagrass for Florida Lawns](#)

**Check irrigation system:** Before summer rains taper off, check that irrigation systems are providing good coverage and operating properly. See: [How to Calibrate your Sprinkler System](#)

**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: [Citrus Culture in the Home Landscape](#)

**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”
  - Zoysia grass

### UF Resources For Gardeners

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS)
  [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping
  [http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Solutions For Your Life
  [http://solutionsforyourlife.com](http://solutionsforyourlife.com)
- *Gardening in a Minute* Radio Program
  [http://gardeninginaminute.com](http://gardeninginaminute.com)
- Florida Master Gardener Program
  [http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/](http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/)
- Living Green
  [http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/)

Comments or suggestions?
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