



Florida Gardening Calendar

Comments or suggestions?

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April

North Florida Edition

What to Plant

Annuals: New varieties of coleus do well in sun or shade and provide vivid colors and patterns for months. **See:** [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

Bulbs: This is an ideal time to plant many bulbs. Consider planting blood lily, caladium, or canna. [Louisiana iris](#) makes a beautiful cut flower and thrives in most soil types although they prefer moist soils with a high organic matter content. **See:** [Bulbs for Florida](#)

Herbs: Plant heat-loving herbs, including basil, oregano, sage, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary. **See:** [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

Vegetables: Continue planting warm season crops. Plant okra and cucumber. Mulch well to prevent weeds and provide irrigation if rainfall is lacking. **See:** [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

What to Do

Pests: Monitor landscape plants weekly for aphids on tender new growth. **See:** [Insects Sheet 2 Landscape Integrated Pest Management](#)

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

Lawn Problems: Many cultural lawn problems such as lack of water mimic insect damage. Confirm the damage is being caused by insects before applying a pesticide. **See:** [Insect Pest Management on Turfgrass](#)

Shrubs: Planting season is here and there are a wide variety of shrubs that can be added to the landscape now. **See:** [Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design](#) [Planting Shrubs in the Florida Landscape](#)

Trees: Many beautiful trees are in bloom. Consider planting [fringetree](#), [Carolina Silverbell](#), or [redbud](#).

Fertilize lawns. Apply fertilizer no sooner than mid-April after new growth has started. Choose one with no or very little phosphorus unless a soil test indicates a need for it. A fertilizer containing slow release nitrogen will give longer lasting results.

See: [Your Florida Lawn](#) [Bahigrass for Florida Lawns](#)
[Bermudagrass for Florida Lawns](#) [Centipedegrass for Florida Lawns](#)
[St. Augustinegrass for Florida Lawns](#) [Zoysiagrass for Florida Lawns](#)

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/>