

Gardening



If you are yet to finish your winter pruning, August is the time to get it done before they start growing vigorously! Remember to prune at a 45 degree angle with a quality pair of secateurs. Once the pruning is done, give all of your plants and lawn a good dose of fertiliser, and freshen up the mulch in your garden beds, and you'll be ready for your spring vegetables. Add some colour to your garden by planting snapdragons, stocks, carnations and alyssums. Your winter vegetables will start coming to an end now, so take the time to think about what you might like to plant for spring.

It's time to fertilise your citrus and feed your lawn. Feed with citrus with a slow-release citrus fertiliser and use a liquid fertiliser to get in their system nice and quickly. Products such as charlie carp and Powerfeed for veggies are fantastic. Keep an eye on weeds in your lawn and treat accordingly. If your lawn is Buffalo, then spray with Amgrow Sir Walter Buffalo Lawn Weed Control. Feed your lawn with Sir Walter Lawn fertiliser which comes in 4kg and 10kg buckets. With winter in its last month, all pruning should just about be done! If you are yet to complete your pruning, now is the time. Use August as an opportunity to complete all major landscaping projects and get your garden ready for spring planting!

Veggies to sow

If you're looking to plant some veggies in the garden now, then it's the perfect time to put in some beetroot, cape gooseberry, carrots, chives, dill, garlic, kohlrabi, lettuce, parsnip, peas, silverbeet, snow peas, spring onions and thyme.

Flowers to plant

August is the perfect time to plant carnations and alyssums. These will bring beautiful colour to your garden and can be used for different purposes. Alyssums are great in pots or used as ground cover, while carnations will make an excellent addition to your garden beds.

Now is the perfect time to get out into your garden and get ready for spring!



August is the ideal time to plant your beetroot.



Add a splash of colour to your garden with carnations.

Q&A

Q:What's a quick growing hedge that can be trimmed?

– Adele, Campbells Creek

A: The options are endless. There are plenty of factors to take into consideration such as water availability, height, full sun/ shade. A couple of tough choices that are well suited to our area are Olive trees, Photinia Robusta and Callistemon Slim.

Q: What's the best position for a bird of paradise?

– Lisa, Castlemaine

A: A nice outdoors spot that is hot, and provides position from the frost works best.

Q: What type of bugs should I be looking out for on my winter veggies?

– Marg, Chewton

A: Keep an eye out for slugs, snails and cabbage moth. As we get into the warmer weather, look out for aphids too.

Q: With all the rain my lawn is looking very yellow – Is there something I can do?

– Tom, Harcourt

A: Most lawns are summer grasses so they will look a bit yellow/ brown in winter. The best thing to do is feed your lawn with Sir Walter lawn fertiliser as we come into spring.

- Elisabeth Templeton,
ASQ Skydancers.

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