

April To-Do list for Cameron County Yards and Gardens

Time to plant:

Flowers: marigolds, moss rose, Louisiana iris, geraniums, daylilies, dusty miller Vinca (periwinkle), and most spring blooming annuals and perennials listed in the March-To-Do list.

Trees: mesquite, retama, royal poinciana (flamboyan), jacaranda, golden rain, orchid tree (pata de vaca). Container grown only, if wrapped in burlap make sure the root ball is firm, hasn't been crushed or watery.

Shrubs: hibiscus, bougainvillea, plumbago, lantana (all varieties), pomegranate, cape honeysuckle, Turk's cap, white brush.

Vegetables: cantaloupe and honeydew melons, corn, cucumber, okra, peppers, pumpkin, squash (summer), watermelon.

Herbs: cilantro, garlic, mint, rosemary, dill, rue.

Remember:

-The high water use tropical plants: ficus trees and crotons (all varieties) can be planted now.

-When planting trees and shrubs put mulch over the bare soil around the plant to conserve moisture. When watering, water deeply and only once a week.

-Keep all flower and vegetable beds free of weeds. This will prevent competition for fertilizer and water.

-Prune Spring flowering trees and shrubs after they have bloomed.

-Cut poinsettias back and fertilize.

(Information source: *Successful Gardening in the Magic Valley of Texas*, Dist. VI, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.