

January to-do List for Cameron County Yards and Gardens

Time to plant:

Flowers: ageratum, alyssum, amaryllis bulbs, begonias, calendulas, calla lilies, dianthus, gerbera daisies, geraniums, kalanchoes, marigolds, roses, snapdragons, stocks.

Trees: live oak, Rio Grande ash, retama, wild olive, tepeguaje, Texas mountain laurel, anaqua, mesquite, Wright's catclaw, guajillo, Texas paloverde, guayacan.

Shrubs: Native: cenizo or purple sage, low croton, Texas lantana, nopal prickly pear, hachinal, Mexican caesalpinia, Texas baby bonnets, Torrey's croton, yellow sophora, brush holly.

Non native-cold tolerant: viburnum, pittosporum, Japanese boxwood, Japanese yew, dwarf yaupon holly, waxleaf ligustrum.

Vegetables: leaf lettuce, radishes, potatoes.

Herbs: anise, basil, dill, fennel, mint, rosemary, rue, thyme. Basil can be potted and brought indoors in case of a frost.

Remember:

-Harvest leafy greens, root crops, grapefruit, oranges and tangerines.

-Prune your peach trees,

-Plant rose bushes. Purchase roses for planting that have been grafted on Dr. Huey, California or Mexican rootstock. Antiques roses do well on their own root stock.

-Consider what new trees and shrubs you want to plant. The next three months are the best time to plant trees and shrubs.

-Prune many of your trees and shrubs, now that the leaves have fallen.

(Information source: *Successful Gardening in the Magic Valley of Texas*, Dist. VI, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. and *Native Trees- and Native Shrubs-of the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas Landscape Uses and Identification*, Native Plant Project, P.O. Box 1433, Edinburg, TX.) .