

## October To-Do List for Cameron County Yards and Gardens

### Time to plant:

**Flowers:** calendula, daylilies, geraniums, iris (Dutch bulbs) petunias, ranunculus bulbs, stocks, impatiens, anemone bulbs, pansies, snapdragons.

**Trees:** montezuma bald cypress, black willow, granjeno, sugar hackberry, cedar elm, tenaza, Texas huisache, Wright's catclaw.

**Shrubs:** hibiscus, cenizo or purple sage, bougainvillea, Drummond's Turk's cap, blackbrush, chapotillo, chilipiquin, white brush.

**Vegetables:** beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, collards, onions, spinach.

**Herbs:** basil, chervil, chives, cilantro, dill, fennel, garlic chives, Mexican marigold, mint, parsley, rue, rosemary, sage, spinach, thyme.

### Reminder:

- Spray citrus trees for scale, mites and fungal diseases with a combination insecticide, miticide, fungicide spray. See your local nursery or garden center for advice and materials. Remember to read and follow directions and all precautions. **NOTE: before spraying see if you have beneficial insects working for you.** Call the Cameron County Extension office for more information.

-Fall budding should occur this month.

-Last fertilizer application for mums and poinsettias.

-Mulch around the base of newly plants trees and shrubs.

-Prepare the soil for your rose garden. Use a soil conditioner with gypsum to improve soil drainage. Read the November 1st article on 'Roses, Planting and Care'.

-Prepare you flower gardens for bulb planting. Bulbs like a well drained soil so use gypsum and peatmoss or well rotted compost.

-Check indoor plants for scale and mealy bug.

-Fertilize your 6 to 8 week old vegetables with ammonium nitrate.

-Watch for leaf worm and beetles on vegetables late in October.

-Harvest: squash, cucumbers, greens, beans, citrus and avocados.

-See your local Texas Certified Nursery Professional for additional expert information on local gardening and landscaping.

(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, PO 1433, Edinburg, TX)