



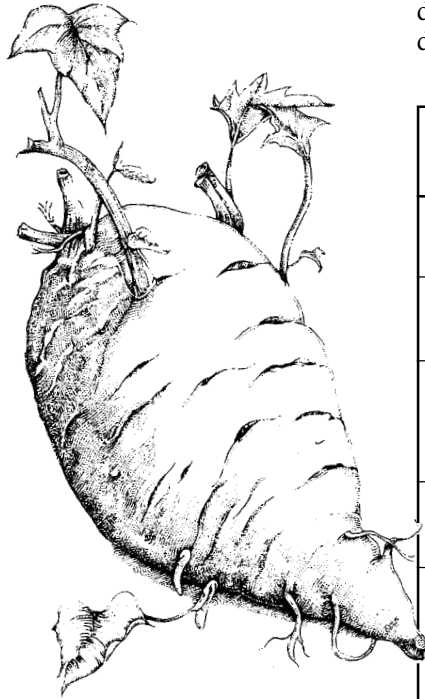
Horticulture

Storing Sweet Potatoes

Harvest sweet potatoes after a light frost kills the vines. Do not delay harvest after the vines die back, the tubers will not increase in size and may begin to rot. Do not wash the sweet potatoes after you dig them. Place them in a basket or slatted crate where there is good air movement.

Store sweet potatoes in a warm, dark place to cure them. Ideally the temperature should be 85 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit with 85 to 90 percent humidity. The curing process helps to heal cuts and bruises. It also helps to change the starch in the root to sugar. This increases the sweetness of the potato. Sweet potatoes will take 5 to 7 days to cure.

After they have cured, store the sweet potatoes in a cool place, preferably where the temperature will be maintained at 60 degrees Fahrenheit. If possible, choose a place with high humidity. The temperature should not be allowed to drop



below 50 degrees because if the potatoes suffer cold damage, they will rot. Never store sweet potatoes in the refrigerator. If sweet potatoes are stored properly, they will keep for several months. (MJF)

Low Water Use Flowers for Your Landscape

In Nebraska landscapes, conserving and maintaining water quality is essential. Planting water wise flowers will help accomplish this, while providing season long color. During establishment, water wise perennials require regular irrigation. After establishment, however, supplementary water will be needed only during periods of extended drought. The depth, width and overall health of a plant's root system determines how efficiently it uses water. To encourage maximum root growth, wet the soil to the depth and width of the eventual root span.

Here is a list of low water use plants for you to try in your landscape. (MJF)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Annual/Perennial	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Height	Location
Aster Fendler's	Aster fendleri	Perennial	Light purple	July-September	12-18"	Sun
Beebalm	Monarda fistulosa	Perennial	Lavender	June-August	24"	Sun to part-shade
Black-Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia fulgida	Biennial or short-lived perennial	Yellow, brown center	July-August	24"	Sun
Blanket Flower	Gaillardia aristata	Perennial	Red with yellow	June-August	18"	Sun
Boltonia	Boltonia asteroides	Perennial	White	August-October	48"	Sun to part-shade
Butterfly Milkweed	Asclepias tuberosa	Perennial	Orange	July	24"	Sun
Coneflower Purple	Echinacea purpurea	Perennial	Purple	July-August	36"	Sun
Coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata	Perennial	Yellow	June-August	24"	Sun
Gayfeather	Liatis spicata	Perennial	Purple	August-September	18-24"	Sun
Missouri Primrose	Oenothera macrocarpa	Perennial	Yellow	May-July	12"	Sun
Pasque Flower	Anemone patens	Perennial	Lavender	April-May	12-18"	Sun to part-shade
Penstemon	Penstemon species	Perennial	Reds, pinks, white	May-September	8-36"	Sun
Phlox, Prairie	Phlox pilosa	Perennial	Pink	June	12-18"	Sun
Sedum, Tall	Sedum telephium	Perennial	Rose to salmon	August-October	18"	Sun

The Lincoln Rose Society Presents...

Fall Rose Show

Sunday, Sept. 22
1-4:30 p.m.

Southeast Community College Cafeteria

Rose entries accepted: 7:30-9:30 a.m.

For more information call Patty Haddow at 489-1364

Bring in this ad and receive a FREE membership to the Lincoln Rose Society

Horticulture information center

NUFACTS
24 hours a day, 7 days a week
1-800-832-5441; or
441-7188 in the Lincoln area

To listen to a NUFACTS information center message, call the number above on a touch-tone phone, then enter a three-digit number listed below. Call 441-7180 to receive a brochure with all the NUFACTS message topics.

- 113 Pine Needle Drop
- 122 Fall Watering
- 143 What to do with Leaves
- 157 Winter Rose Care
- 160 Spring Bulb Planting
- 170 Spring Bulb Forcing
- 194 Fall Lawn Care
- 199 Fertilizing Lawns
- 236 Strawberry Winter Care
- 241 Fruit Storage
- 262 Garden Clean Up
- 266 Composting
- 271 Drying Gourds
- 285 Storing Squash
- 291 Soil Testing

2002 September/October Garden Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Pick flowers to dry or press	3 Evaluate garden plants	4 Power rake or aerify bluegrass lawn	5	6 Over seed bluegrass	7
8	9 Control perennial broadleaf weeds	10	11	12 Update garden journal	13	14 NU Landscape Connections, East Campus 9 a.m.
15	16 Check outdoor houseplants for insects	17 Divide lily-of-the-valley	18 Save annual flower seeds, like marigolds and zinnias	19	20 Turn compost pile	21
22	23	24 Bring outdoor houseplants inside before frost	25 Dig tender bulbs, tubers and corms before frost	26 Begin light/dark treatment to poinsettias	27	28
29	30	1 Plant garlic	2 Pick squash and pumpkins before frost	3 Water trees and shrubs	4 Pick green tomatoes to ripen indoors	5 Winterize sprinkler system
6	7 Pick last apple and pears	8 Drain water hoses and store before frost	9 Plant spring flowering bulbs	10 Average date of first frost	11 Lower mower height to 2-2.5 inches	12
13	14 Clean up garden	15	16 Rake and compost leaves	17	18 Fertilize tall fescue	19 Fertilize bluegrass lawn
20	21	22 Organize garden supplies and tools	23	24 Clean up perennial flower beds	25	26 Plant acorns to start new oak trees
27	28 Put up bird feeders	29	30 Continue to mow lawn as needed	31 Make wish list for next year		

Many of us need reminders. That is the purpose of this calendar. Check the calendar each month and follow the recommendations if they are necessary in your landscape situation. (MJF)