


Fragrance in the Garden

As a gardener, you know there are hundreds of garden plants to choose from when you are designing a landscape. Fragrant plants are an added bonus to your garden site. Consider adding these fragrant plants to your outdoor living area. (MJF)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Fragrance Source	Height (inches)	Annual or Perennial	Location
Basil, Sweet	Ocimum basilicum	Foliage	12 – 18	Annual	Full sun
Chamomile, German	Matricaria recutita	Flowers	12 – 18	Annual	Full sun
Iris, Bearded	Iris germanica	Flowers	8 – 36	Perennial	Full sun
Lemon Balm	Melissa officinalis	Foliage	24 – 36	Perennial	Full sun
Lavender, English	Lavandula augustifolia	Flowers & Foliage	12 – 16	Perennial	Full sun
Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria majalis	Flowers	8 – 12	Perennial	Part shade
Spearmint	Mentha spicata	Foliage	12 – 24	Perennial	Full sun
Oregano	Origanum vulgare	Foliage	12 – 18	Perennial	Full sun
Peony	Paeonia lactiflora	Flower	24 – 48	Perennial	Full sun
Rose	Rosa sp.	Flower	18 – 48	Perennial	Full sun
Rosemary	Rosmarinus officinalis	Foliage	24 – 36	Tender Perennial	Full sun
Sage, common	Salvia officinalis	Foliage	18 – 36	Perennial	Full sun
Thyme, common	Thymus vulgaris	Foliage	8 – 12	Perennial	Full sun



Garden Guide

Things to do this month

Snapdragons should be pinched back after blooming to promote a second flush of growth.

Cut back and fertilize delphinium and phlox to encourage a second flowering.

Many plants are easily propagated by layering. Verbenas, euonymus, English ivy and climbing roses are a few plants that will root if the stems are fastened down and covered with soil.

Cutting flowers is best done with sharp shears or a knife which will help avoid injury to the growing plant. A slanting cut will expose a larger absorbing surface to water and will prevent the base of the stem from resting on the bottom of the vase. It is best to carry a bucket of water to the garden for collecting flowers, rather than a cutting basket.

Divide and transplant bearded iris using the vigorous ends of the rhizomes. Discard the old center portion. Cut the leaves back to about six inches.

Tall flowers should be staked to prevent damage by wind. Use stakes which are large enough to support the plant but are not too conspicuous. Use soft twine or twist ties to secure.

A brown or grayish cast over a lawn can be caused by a dull or improperly adjusted mower blades that shred grass rather than cut it.

Store pesticides in a safe place in their original containers, away from children and pets. Use pesticides carefully in your garden. Read the labels and follow the directions. The warnings and precautions are for your protection.

Certain pesticides have a waiting period of several days between the time of the last spray and harvest. Read and follow directions on all labels before applying to your vegetable crops. Wash all produce thoroughly before use.

Control mosquitoes by eliminating all sources of stagnant water.

A garden needs one inch of rain or water each week. Early morning is the best time to water. Evening watering is less desirable because plant leaves that remain wet through the night are more susceptible to fungus diseases. Mulch plants to reduce water losses and improve yields.

For fall harvest of lettuce, radish, carrots, beets, turnips, kale and spinach, sow seeds in late July to early August.

Continue to make successive plantings of crops like beans and sweet corn to provide a continuous harvest until fall. A small garden will produce a large quantity of vegetables if replanting is done throughout the summer.

Check the soil moisture of container grown vegetables and flowers daily. As the temperature rises, some plants may need water twice a day.

Continue attracting insect eating birds to the garden area by providing them with a fresh water source. (MJF)

Vegetable Gardening In The Fall

By planning and planting a fall vegetable garden, it is possible to have fresh vegetables up to and even past the first frosts. Many varieties of vegetables can be planted in mid to late summer for fall harvests. Succession plantings of warm-season crops, such as corn and beans, can be harvested until the first killing frost. Cool-season crops, such as broccoli, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, kohlrabi, leaf lettuce, radishes, spinach, turnips, kale and collards grow well during the cool fall days and withstand light frosts. Timely planting is the key to a successful fall garden.

To determine the time to plant a particular vegetable for the latest harvest, you need to

know the average date of the first hard freeze. For Lancaster County, it is approximately Oct. 10. You also must know the number of days to maturity for the variety of vegetable you plan to grow. Count the days back from the frost date to figure your planting date.

When planting fall crops, prepare the soil by restoring nutrients removed by spring and summer crops. A light layer of compost or a small application of fertilizer will prepare the soil for another crop. Dry soil may make working the soil difficult and inhibit seed germination during the mid-summer period. Plant fall vegetables when the soil is moist after a rain or water the area thoroughly the day

before planting. It may also be beneficial to soak the seeds overnight before planting.

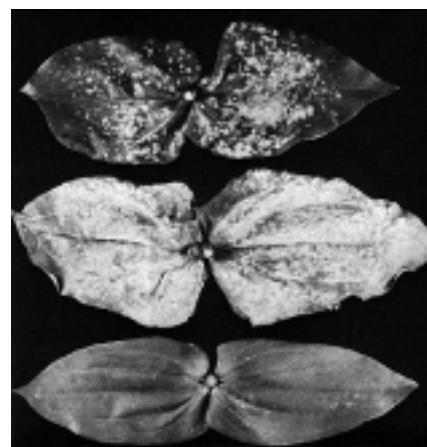
An organic mulch will help keep the soil cool. Mulching between rows can decrease soil drying. Irrigate when necessary so plants have sufficient moisture during the warm days. Some of the best quality vegetables are produced during the warm days and cool nights of the fall season.

Look ahead to the fall garden, which offers its own satisfaction through its prolonged harvest of fresh vegetables, savings in food costs and the knowledge that you are making full use of your gardening space and season. (MJF)

Powdery Mildew on Ornamentals

Powdery mildew is a fungal disease of many ornamentals in Nebraska landscapes. The most commonly effected species include lilac, sycamore, oak, honeysuckle, bittersweet, hydrangea, viburnum, dogwood and rose. Many annuals and perennial flowers are also affected.

The most obvious symptoms are white to gray powdery substance covering the leaves and/or stems of the plants. An over all stunted appearance to the plant can also occur. Later in the season the powdery substance may become thicker,



Two zinnia leaves affected by powdery mildew, top and center; healthy leaf below. The center leaf is severely infected; individual infections can be distinguished on the top leaf. See page 12 for photo of powdery mildew on an oak leaf.

indicating the growth of mycelium. Along with this thicker growth, tiny, black, round fruiting bodies will appear. These bodies will rupture and expel spores that will then disperse in the wind to other host plants.

Control of this disease can be achieved by good cultural methods and use of fungicides. The cultural practices include thinning overgrown plants and increasing air circulation around the infected plant material. Fungicides should be applied at the first sign of mildew and reapplied two weeks later. (MJF)



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