

June Gardening

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June is just one day away and even though the high June temperatures can make working in the yard very hot and steamy, there are still plenty of things to do. Just remember to work in the yard early in the morning or evening hours. Here are some suggestions of things to do.

Ideas for Your Lawn:

If your lawn is a pale green add iron to green it up. Don't use nitrogen unless mowing your lawn is a hobby! You can look for a granular or liquid iron product or, mix two ounces of ferrous sulfate in three to five gallons of water and sprinkle the solution over 1,000 square feet of turf.

Keep a look out for brown spots in your yard. If some appear, first make sure that its not a lack of water due to a broken sprinkler head or maybe one that is mis-directed. If the problem is not a lack of water, than you can simply look for chinch bugs by seperating the grass near the boarder between the brown and green sections. Chinch bugs are small black insects with white wings that will be walking around the soil or leaf blades. Immature chinch bugs are reddish with white band across their backs. If the chinch bugs are present you can spray the brown spot plus an area 5 feet around it with a Neem insecticide.

Some flowers that you can plant this month include; begonias, celosia, coleus, gaillardia, impatiens, marigolds, vinca, portulaca, purslane, salvia, gomphrena, lisianthus and zinnias.

Herbs that do well now include; basil, chives, dill, marjoram, mint, oregano, sage and thyme.

Bulbs to plant include; African iris, caladiums, canna, crinum, daylily, eucharis lily, society garlic, and rain lily.

Mole crickets are hatching so use a bait to control them. In mid to late June you can use Oftanol for two to three months of control. Apply the pesticide as late in the day as possible. Follow the label instructions when applying.