

SUB TROPICAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE - AUGUST

The Lawn

Mow and edge once a fortnight at the correct height. Don't mow lawn too low as this can encourage weeds, pests and diseases.

Remove Bindii or other broadleaf weeds which appear before they set seed, by hand or if too vigorous apply a selective broad leaf weed herbicide at recommended rates. Always check the compatibility of the herbicide with your lawn type. Apply mid August.

Be careful not to over water. Check and monitor irrigation system, check lawn for moisture levels and adjust sprinklers where necessary.

Save water where possible. Longer deeper watering less often will produce a stronger healthier lawn. Water in the early morning or late afternoon when less evaporation will occur.

Vegetable Garden

What to plant (Sub tropical areas)

All Areas: asparagus, asparagus pea, beetroot, burdock, cabbage, cape gooseberry, capsicum, carrot, cauliflower, celery, chilli, chinese cabbage, climbing beans, collards, cucumber, daikon, eggplant, french bean, globe artichokes, Jerusalem artichokes, kohlrabi, leeks, luffa, lettuce, marrow, okra, potato, pumpkin, radish, rocket, rockmelon, shallots, silverbeet, spring onions, squash, sweet corn, tomato, tomatillo, watermelon, zucchini

Best vegetables for:

Coast: beetroot, eggplant, lettuce, peas, radish, rocket, shallot, spring onions, squash, tomato, zucchini

Inland: capsicum, cucumber, french bean, marrow, potato

Highlands Only: cauliflower, celery, kohlrabi

August vegetable harvest:

June planted - radish, rocket

May planted - beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, collards, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, silverbeet, swede

April planted - broad beans, carrot, leeks, shallots, snow peas

March planted - cauliflower, celery

Check weeds, pests and diseases, Encourage natural predators like wasps, lady beetles and birds, remove by hand or soapy water spray, and develop companion planting techniques.

Turn over compost pile and check decomposition. Place decomposed compost around vegetables and herbs.