



Betty's Bloomers Nursery

Issue 27

May 15, 2007

Winding Up Another Spring Season!

And hasn't it been a spectacular Spring. Everything has bloomed and grown better this year than recent years thanks to adequate rainfall and cooler temperatures. We all need to make time to get outside and enjoy the weather while it lasts, because we all know it will end soon.

What's in Season

It is time to replace your cool-weather annuals that are beginning to fade with warm weather annual bedding plants. Some long lasting heat and drought tolerant annuals are Moss Rose, Ageratum, Vinca, and Zinnias. For shadier beds plant Impatiens, Begonias, or Coleus. Torenia is another long lasting annual that will give you lots of blooms on compact sturdy plants in a partial shade bed.

If you are tired of replanting every season, add perennials to your flower beds. In addition to Lantana, Verbena, and Mexican Heather for Summer long color, add Coreopsis, or Rudbeckia for bright Sunshine-Yellow daisy blooms. Coleus, Salvia, Shrimp plants, Plumbago or Polka dot plants will fill a large partially sunny space quickly, also.

Many of us still have empty spaces where we once had large shade trees, but maybe we don't want to

experience what happens when those large trees come crashing down again. How about replacing those large Oak trees with smaller more manageable Ornamental trees. Vitex, or Chaste Trees, are coming into bloom with Lavender Spike blooms that will last for weeks. Some other good choices are: Golden Rain tree, Pepper Bush, Redbud, Red twig Dogwood, and Crepe Myrtle.

To Do List:

When cleaning newly sprouted weeds out of your flower beds be careful not to remove any reseeding annuals that have sprouted from last years planting. I know it is hard to identify them when they are small, but if you only remove the plants that you know are weeds and leave the rest until they are larger you may be surprised at how many "free" plants you may have.

Dead heading spent blooms from annual bedding plants like Salvia, Cosmos, Marigolds and Zinnias will prevent these plants from going to seed and they will produce more flowers.

Something Extra

You may have heard recently about the declining bee population and how this will effect crop production

and seed production. Whether the cause is related to pesticide use or just a cycle of nature is debatable, but we all may be guilty of reaching for our insecticide can or sprayer when we see the first sign of damage on our new garden plants. Maybe we should overlook that caterpillar or two chewing away on our prized plant. We might be saving a leaf or two that will grow back on a healthy plant, but are we sacrificing our bees and butterflies? Maybe we need to back up and let nature take care of itself, after all, plants, bees and butterflies were here long before we were.



Contact us

Betty's Bloomers Nursery

6776 FM 418, Silsbee, Tx 77656

Phone- 409-385-4892

E-Mail

bettysbloomers@cyberscope.net

Happy Gardening!