



February

Annuals/perennials:

- Many bulbs can be planted now. Provide adequate water to establish and protect from cold weather with mulch. Try dahlias, crinum, and agapanthus.
- Azaleas are in full bloom this month. Now is a great time to select varieties to add to your landscape.
- Roses should be pruned this month to remove damaged canes and improve overall form. After pruning, fertilize and apply a fresh layer of mulch.
- Now is the time to fertilize shrubs.
- If not done in January, fertilize citrus now.



Fruits/Vegetables:



- Begin planting warm season crops this month. Cucumbers, peppers, and tomatoes can be started while temperatures are cool. Start as transplants indoors or provide protection outdoors.
- Get a soil test done if you are planning a new vegetable garden!

Cold protection and Irrigation:

- If cold weather has damaged palms, proper care may prevent loss of the palm and encourage recovery. See <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg318> for more information.
- Temperatures can still drop to freezing this month. Be sure new additions to the garden are able to withstand cold.

Pest Control:

- Now is a good time to check citrus trees for scab disease. Apply a copper fungicide when new leaves appear and again when 2/3 of the flower blossoms have fallen.
- Apply a pre-emergent weed killer to lawns this month to prevent germination of warm season weed seeds.



ID pest before treating turf/plants. Contact our Master Gardener Help Desk for assistance when necessary, 850-689-5850 (Crestview) or 850-651-7476 (Fort Walton Beach).