Express News Gardening Tasks

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* It is time to prune fruit trees, roses and freeze-killed tops in the landscape. Visit plantanswers.com if you need diagrams and other information about pruning.
* Plant potatoes, onions, lettuce, carrots, and English peas now. It is also the last chance to plant broccoli, other cole crops, and spinach for a spring crop.
* Aerate and top-dress the lawn to reduce compaction and to allow organic material to reach the turf roots. You can rent an aerator and have the compost delivered, or hire the work done.
* It has been a strange year for leaf fall. Expect live oak leaves to fall soon. Use all leaves as mulch or put them in the compost pile. They can also be left on the lawn to decompose to provide nutrients and organic material for the grass plants. Mow the leaves on the lawn to speed up the leaf decomposition.