

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Some wildflowers can be planted with transplants. Look for bluebonnets, larkspur, and lavender poppies. All three selections will drop seed and naturalize if they are planted in full sun in a location where the seed can be produced and drop from the plant to reach bare soil.
- Apply dormant oil to your fruit and nut tree stems and trunks. The treatment controls scale and over wintering aphids and other pests. The oil must be applied when temperatures of 45 degrees or higher are predicted for 48 hours. Be careful because the dormant oil will defoliate pansies and other plants. Follow label instructions.
- For fragrant flowers in the winter, plant stock, sweet peas and alyssum. The stocks and sweet peas make excellent cut flowers. Plant sweet peas by seed and the alyssum and stock by transplants.
- If you planted your winter vegetables in September you should be able to harvest cauliflower and Brussels sprouts now along with broccoli, chard, collards, rutabagas, turnips, radishes, spinach, beets, lettuce and carrots. There is also still time to plant English peas, lettuce, radish, turnips and carrots by seed. Plant the greens and broccoli by transplant.