

Express News Gardening Tasks

Distribute 05-18-2017

- Gardeners are harvesting the recommended tomato varieties such as BHN 968, HM1623, Red Deuce, and Tycoon. Thwart the birds with bird netting or harvest the fruit as soon as there is a color change. The tomatoes will finish the ripening on the kitchen counter.
- It is getting more and more difficult to find the large sized zinnia transplants at the nursery. Varieties such as California Giant, Cactus and dahlia-flowered are desirable for cut flowers and as nectar sources for butterflies. Use seeds if the transplants are unavailable. Zinnia seeds germinate and bloom quickly.
- It is not too late to fertilize the lawn with a slow release lawn fertilizer such as 19-5-9.
- Plants in containers such as citrus, hibiscus, tomatoes, blueberries, and penta are completely dependent on the attending gardener for nutrients. Supplement slow-release granules such as Osmocote with soluble fertilizers such as Peters or Miracid mixed in the sprinkler can at least once per month.