

Express News Gardening Tasks

- The purple martins are in town seeking nest sites for the summer. Raise your houses to accommodate them.
- Your fruit trees should be pruned and starting to bloom. It is very difficult to produce blemish free fruit without spraying insecticides and fungicides every week on peaches, apples, and plums. The usual spray program includes alternating between malathion and Sevin to prevent insect damage. Captan can be sprayed with them to protect against fungal diseases. Begin the weekly spray program after half the petals have fallen off the blooms. Spray in the evening to reduce damage to bees.
- Green beans, summer squash, cucumbers and tomatoes can be planted in March. Place tomato transplants in the garden near the end of the month. Plant the other warm weather vegetables by seed.
- Use your lawn mower and string mower to keep the winter weeds from setting seed. They will try hard to set seed and then decline quickly as the weather warms. Beggars lice is particularly annoying because the seed sticks to pets and pant legs.