Express News Gardening Tasks

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* If the sticky, viney, weed bedstraw is growing in the shrub border where it is not possible to mow or to apply a herbicide for broadleaf weeds, try removing it with a construction rake. The tactic often works well. Discard the bedstraw collected in the compost pile.
* The spring flush of snapdragon blooms has begun. For best results add a cup of slow release lawn fertilizer per 50 sq. ft. of bed and remove weeds. While fertilizing apply the same material to onions, iris, fruit trees, roses and other plants that are actively growing.
* Use your live oak leaves that are falling as mulch or in the compost pile. They can also be mowed in place where they will decompose to provide organic material for the lawn. This is also the best time to spray Kocide (copper hydroxide) to control ball moss. Ball moss does not hurt the trees but some gardeners do not like its appearance.
* The soil has warmed up enough to plant a portion of your potted-up tomatoes in the garden. Save a reserve supply to plant after April 1.