

Express News Gardening Tasks

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A new maroon poppy is available as transplants at area nurseries. It can be used in the same manner as bluebonnet and larkspur transplants to create a naturalized planting. It is also advisable to plant any wildflower seeds that are lingering in drawers or sheds. Most will sprout and bloom this spring if you place the seed in full sun where it makes contact with the soil.

It should now be clear where the live wood ends and the dead wood begins on most of your esperanza, duranta, thyrallis, citrus and other cold damaged plants. You can begin the pruning now or wait awhile to assure that another freeze does not cause more damage.

Treat scale and other insects that are hidden in the bark and stems of fruit trees and shrubs with dormant oil. As per the label, apply the diluted material when 2 days of temperatures above 45 degrees are forecast.

Prune peaches to open the middle and space fruit bearing branches with the red one-year wood. The website plantanswers.com has diagrams to help you complete the pruning of fruit trees, roses and other plants.