

## Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Eventually prune the frozen stems of esperanza, firebush, lantana, salvia and other root hardy plants with cold sensitive tops down but leave them as long as possible to provide cover and feeding areas for ground feeding birds.
- Spray fruit trees and other plants with scale insect infestations with dormant or horticultural oil to control the sucking insects on the leaves and trunks. Citrus, euonymus, and stone fruit are often attacked.
- Mow the leaves on your lawn to speed up decomposition. The organic material is valuable for the lawn and can also be used for mulch or compost.
- Red, white and blue Bluebonnet transplants are available from some retailers. Plant them for a display or to begin a naturalized planting in full sun. If the red and white transplants are isolated from the blue, and blue seedlings are rogued, the red and or white will produce their unique color longer.