

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- The tomatoes are starting to ripen. To reduce bird damage, harvest your fruit as soon as it shows color. You can also cover the plants with a fabric netting. To keep the tomatoes at high production levels side- dress the plants with slow-release lawn fertilizer one more time.
- Rinse out the hummingbird feeder every week and refill it with fresh sugar water mix at a 5 parts water to one-part sugar by volume. Use any leftover sugar water from the feeder in a shallow dish for the bees and butterflies.
- Apply “Cut Vine and Stump Killer’ to the pruning cut when you remove hackberries, chinaberry, mulberries, and other unwanted seedlings. The material prevents re-sprouting of the plants. Follow label instructions.
- There is still time to fertilize the lawn with a slow-release fertilizer such as 19-5-9. Apply it at the relatively low rate recommended on the label.