

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- We are approaching the time of peak butterfly numbers in San Antonio, enhance nectar sources by obtaining milkweed, porterweed, zinnias, lantanas, mistflower, vinca, duranta, and penta plants in full bloom. They can be left in containers or planted in the landscape in full bloom for the summer.
- It is important to provide regular (bi-weekly at least) irrigation to your fruit trees during dry periods like we are experiencing. Fruit on citrus trees will not develop properly without adequate water, and trees such as peaches are supporting bud development for next spring if they receive adequate water.
- Bermuda, zoysia, and buffalo grass can be allowed to go dormant this summer if water for irrigation is unavailable or prohibitively expensive. The grasses will recover when the rains resume. St Augustine grass can survive with irrigation every 2 weeks.
- If your New Gold lantana has quit blooming due to infestation by lace bugs you may be able to speed up the new bloom by dead heading the plants with a string mower. Mark your calendar for next year in early June and July to spray the plants with acephate or another systemic insecticide to prevent the damage.