



Your November Gardening Guide

We are rapidly approaching the festive season, and the garden tasks will be starting to pile up. The warmer weather and longer days certainly make it more appealing to roll up our sleeves, chuck on our gloves and get to work in the garden. The satisfaction from ticking off the list of jobs is well worth it, as is the joy we get from showing off our hard work to our friends and family.

Below are some common tasks you can get stuck into during the month.



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Tomato Time

Canterbury Show weekend is a great weekend to get your tomato plants in. This is typically when the weather settles enough to not worry too much about the cooler weather affecting your plants.

Preparation

Getting the ground-work right is an important part of any planting you are doing. It is recommended that you don't plant new tomatoes in the same spot as last season, or where potatoes were, as there can still be diseases in the soil that can affect the growth of your new plant. Prepare existing beds with Organic Compost and Sheep Pellets, and Intelligro Tomato Fertiliser. You can then add our South-Hort Tomato Mix to the top layer to enhance the growing environment. If you are planting in pots, use the Tomato Mix straight into the pot, no need to add fertiliser prior to planting. For more information about how to plant, click on the links below.

How to plant a tomato in a container:

<http://www.intelligro.co.nz/how-to-plant-a-tomato-in-a-container>

How to plant a tomato in the garden:

<http://www.intelligro.co.nz/how-to-plant-a-tomato-in-the-garden>

Tomato Mix:

<http://www.intelligro.co.nz/tomato-mix>

Tomato fertiliser:

<http://www.intelligro.co.nz/tomato-fertiliser-1.5kg>



Citrus Care

To ensure you have enough juicy lemons, keep the water up to your plants while they are in flower now. Dry lemons are directly related to lack of water as the crop develops over summer. A layer of mulch works wonders, apply mulch after watering the soil. They will need fertilising too, so stock up on Citrus fertiliser now too. If you have other citrus plants, they will need the same treatment too.



Plant Flowers

Even if you are lacking space, pots and containers are a great way to add a burst of colour to the garden. Flowers look great, and encourage bees – which are a vital for pollination – to help boost the quality and yield of our veggies and flowers.

Here is a wee article about why bees are so important.

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/jun/17/why-are-bees-important>



Add the Bark!

Adding a decent layer of bark mulch to your garden will be a huge benefit to your plants. The main reasons being it will help to reduce the weeds, conserve moisture in the soil (which is especially important through our hotter, drier months) and protect your plant's roots from the weather extremes. All of this helps to give your plants the best chance at healthy growth, as well as improving the overall look of your garden. Intelligro have a great selection of barks and mulches, come down and have a look for yourself, or head to our website www.igro.co.nz. If bark isn't your thing, then we have a great range of stones, chips and pebbles. These are also on our website, so have a look on there, or better still, come and see us and we can show you what we have!



Keep on Top of the Watering

A good soak of water every few days is ideal. A light sprinkle each day is pretty ineffective and can cause the plants to only search near the surface for the water. Deep watering helps to encourage the plants to search further down for the water, which reduces the chances of the plant's roots drying out. Make sure you establish a watering pattern for your lawn, flowers and veggies.