



**ACORN
NURSERY**

PLANTS - GIFTS - CAFE

TONY'S TIPS

SEPTEMBER

THINGS TO DO IN SEPTEMBER

- If you didn't feed your roses in August do it now and every 2 months through until April.
- Start bluing Hydrangeas with Blueing fertiliser. White Hydrangeas will always be white. Add lime to "pink" hydrangeas.
- Treat weeds in your lawn with Buffalo Pro or Bindi-Clover Killer. Feed with Lawn Builder a week later.
- Put an indoor plant into every room of your house and reduce pollutants by 25%. More plants equal cleaner air. Google Plant/Life Balance to find out more.
- Prune Winter/Spring flowering plants after flowering; i.e. Spirea, Camellias, Pieris, Azaleas, Daphne (lightly), Flowering Quince (japonica), Wisteria, Banksia Rose, and Hardenbergia.
- Feed your Gardenias with the plant specific Harry's Gardenia Food each month of Spring to help recover from Winter and ensure it is able to bring every single flower bud to fruition.
- Prune Citrus removing new growth to postpone the next flush of new growth till later when less susceptible to Gall Wasp and then hang Gall Wasp Traps in tree to protect the later flushes of new growth.

SPRING PLANTING

This is the biggest planting season of the year for the widest variety of trees, shrubs, flowers and veges. Our plants have all been grown in the best possible conditions with the best potting mixes and fertilisers. When they leave our place for yours the transition should be seamless; they shouldn't have their roots teased, they should be planted into organically improved soil and they should not be planted deeper than they are in their current pot. We will have the best quality plants from the best growers and the best products and advice to ensure the best results. We have 8 qualified, experienced horticulturalists on staff that are here to help you make the right decisions first time and not waste time and money on poor quality stock, bad advice or incorrect planting. Our best customers are successful gardeners.

FEEDING

After some very cold days in Winter some of the warmth loving plants in our gardens are going to need some serious feeding to help them come out of their cold enforced dormancy and start to look better and perform better in Spring. Buffalo, kikuyu and couch lawns were bleached yellow by cold weather and need some encouragement to green up and make the best of Spring; use slow release Lawn Builder fertiliser. Gardenias also were affected by the cold and need monthly feeds of the Harry's through Spring to help fatten them up for November-December flowering. Remember Harry's Gardenia Food has the extra Iron and Magnesium Sulphate to help Gardenias access the fertiliser in cool soils and be better sooner. Citrus have also suffered and need feeding to help them recover from fruiting, green up and grow through Spring. Use the organic Nitrogen based/high Potassium Citrus Food to feed your citrus and reduce susceptibility to Gall Wasp. If the food is white (ammonia based) don't use it! All things will benefit from a feed at this time of the year and Spring feeding is the most important feed; just make sure it's a good quality complete fertiliser. Plants are like us; good nutrition means good health.



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NEW RELEASES

We have a heap of new release tomatoes but the ones I like the most are the black cherry tomato called Cherry Black (flavour plus), Roma Mini Truss (mini romas like the supermarket ones) and Cherry Bomb; a tall growing variety with larger cherry tomatoes (15 to 20g each). Cherry Bomb was the winner from the recent Fairbanks trials of about 100 new varieties and was chosen for its disease resistance, yield and flavour. There are also two new currant-sized varieties released for the first time which have smaller than cherry sized fruit and have been popular in the USA. There are 12 new varieties of tomatoes altogether this year (mostly cherry and currant types which flower and set fruit earlier and quicker) plus some great new chillies and capsicums coming through next month. Watch out for the new large flowered Montana Strawberry, both ornamental and deliciously edible.

We also have new release Lavenders coming through in September; a group of "winged" lavenders called Fairy Wings. Loving a sunny, well drained position, growing as a compact plant approx 70cm by 70cm they will be covered in mauve, pink or blush-white flowers throughout Spring. Drought tolerant, long flowering, great in pots and the garden like all Lavenders they should be pruned fairly firmly after flowering but not to bare wood. Pruning rejuvenates Lavenders as long as we prune to above the lowest foliage(to draw sap up to bud to reshoot quickly) when we have 2 warm growing months for recovery.ie prune lavenders after flowering from October to February.

New, improved Armerias called Dreamarias will be available from mid-September. Just as hardy as the original varieties of thrift they have bigger flowers in various shades of pink on a neat mound of foliage. The flowers pick well, the plant is hardy in a wide variety of soils and conditions and is great in pots, borders, rockeries and as a groundcover.



We've just returned from trawling through the Gift Fair to find the latest and greatest products.

Spring is when we start to think about picnics and dining outside. With 2 beautiful ranges of both melamine and bamboo tableware we've got you sorted.

Jewellery designers Ichu, Nicole Fendel, Bianc, Petals and Tiger Tree have some beautiful pieces on offer, with semi precious stones still very much on trend, as are delicate pieces in 925 grade sterling silver, 14 carat yellow gold or rose gold. New season handbags are hitting the shelves and a woman can never have too many handbags! This season colours are neutrals and pastels, with a fair share of the blacks, tans and navys thrown in from Louenhide, Elms & King and Cosgrove and Beasley.

