



KATO'S JULY GARDENING REMINDERS

It's time for Fall tomatoes early in July!

Check your local garden center for the best varieties. I always have great luck with Celebrity, Yellow Pear and Sweet 100's! I make it a point to try a few new ones each season. I try to buy at least two of the new ones as an experiment. That way, if they do *really* well or *really* poorly, I know it wasn't just the 1 plant I picked. Green Zebra tomatoes have an unusual color and great flavor. I always buy and plant new pepper transplants around the middle of the month. Jalapenos, bell peppers and habaneros love our Texas heat.



Want your own mini pumpkins, jack-o-lanterns or decorative gourds this year?

Plant pumpkin and gourd seeds for fall harvest. Try seeds, now, and give them lots of room to spread.

Around Independence Day is a great time to trim and shape your woody perennials like salvia. Autumn Sage is *salvia greggii* and I cut mine back around 6"-8". Grab the top, spent blooms of the plant like you're making a pony tail and cut it back. This will encourage more blossoms for the rest of the summer and into the fall. Last year I waited until the middle of the month because they were still going strong at the 4th of July. Sometime this month is fine. Cut back your roses, a bit, to stimulate new growth. Dead or ratty tips will appreciate the pruning and your roses won't look so leggy. Trim them back 10% to 25% and shape them like a bush. Don't allow "face slappers" to bolt over sidewalks or paths; keep them in shape.



Remember deeper waterings, less often, when it comes to established landscapes over 1 year old. Follow our mandatory watering guidelines. Hand water new plants and potted plants with your hose or watering cans before 10 am or after 6pm.



Be on the look-out for aphids, caterpillar or snail damage. Treat with organics whenever possible.

Call me if you have any questions or need help eating your tomatoes!



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