

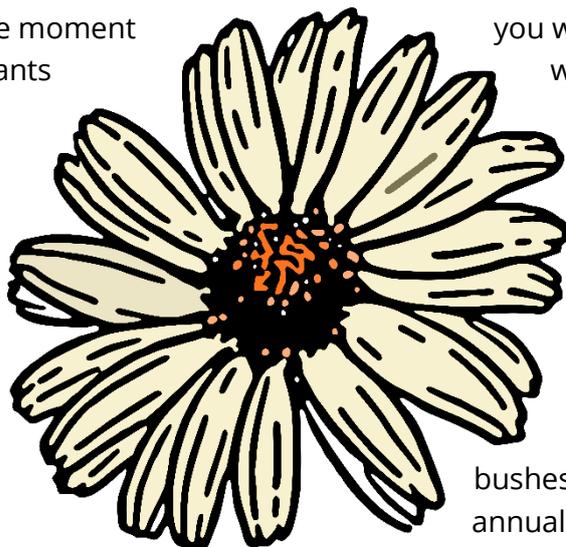
Daylight is starting to pour in, warming the soil, and the expanded sunshine hours are generating an enormous spurt of new growth.

What a good time to get out into the garden.

There are a few beasties out there but remember that pesticides are not selective. When you spray for those nasty little green things eating your rose tips you are also destroying any ladybugs which may be around. They are the gardener's friend and produce lots of hungry young ladybirds that soon wipe out even the worst aphid population. Plus the residue from the spraying kills your soil microbes.

In the nurseries at the moment not purchase your plants and form the flowers recognise what you

Other flower lobelia, African stifling grass even energetic, these are Plant seedlings spots amongst deadheading, these through summer and



you will find azaleas in bloom, why whilst you can see what colour are, that way you can are paying for.

seedlings at your nursery are marigold (incredible for weeds), petunia, phlox, and ground-hugging forget-me-nots magnificent ground-covers. 20cm separated, picking sunny bushes and roses. With intermittent annuals can blossom relentless all autumn.

A critical activity is feeding the soil. Mulch intensely with straw or wood chip around trees and bushes, mixing in old, well-decayed animal fertilizer. Compost made from any type of animal manure is good stuff, but sheep compost contains an extra amount of potassium. It makes a wonderful soil conditioner, notwithstanding when basically spread over the surface. What's more, when generously delved in, it helps separate substantial soils.

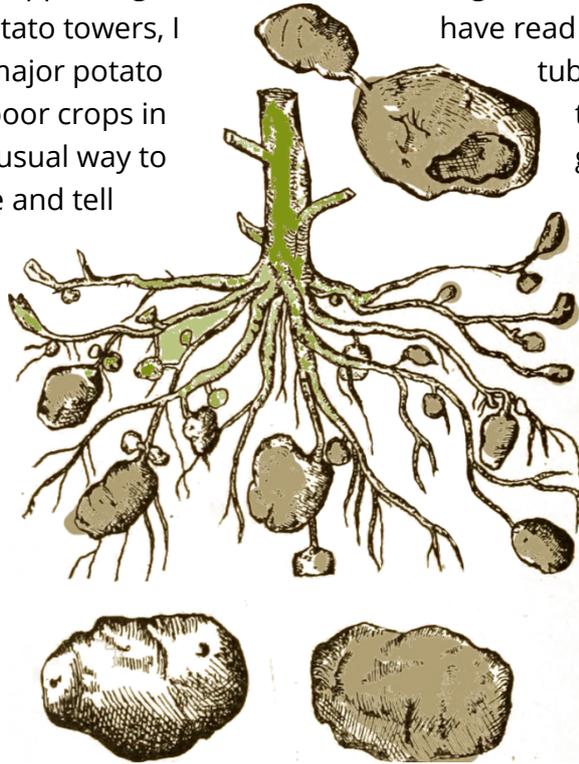
As for your vegetables, it's the prime planting and sowing time.

Yearly weeds are best dug in before they bloom and seed, to wind up as a type of green manure. Once blended into the dirt, most yearly weeds decay quickly amid spring.

Seeds of important root vegetables, for example, carrots, parsnips, beetroot, swedes, turnips, radish, and salsify can be sown into readied, very much raked soil. These vegetables have a low requirement for high-nitrogen manures. In fact, even in normal soils, most seedlings are up and moving two or three weeks after the seed has been sown. Many root vegetables come up too thickly, so make sure to thin packed seedling — else you'll get poor yields and twisted roots. My newest way to thing seedlings is to use a pair of scissors and snip them off just below ground level. It makes the thinning job easier and I then just drop the above ground portion back down to add to the mulch.

Potato tubers are appearing on the market, time to get some of your favourite varieties in the ground. As for potato towers, I carried out by a major potato consistently got poor crops in by hilling up, the usual way to crop. Please write and tell share with areas that have much manured watering, you'll Christmas

Long-keeping just as perennial types When choosing small is good as and less transplanting.



have read recently they do not work. In tests tuber supplier in the U.S.A., they the deep beds. Whilst those grown grow potatoes, produced a decent us of your experiences so we can others. The dirt is as yet wet in had good winter rain. In very soil and an intermittent deep be eating homegrown spuds for lunch.

onions can go in now, however seedlings., and some of the are worthwhile having also. punnets of seedlings remember the roots are not so entangled damage occurs when

Leek seedlings, however, are brilliant value. Make rows of holes using a garden fork and drop a leek seedling into every second hole and fill with water. They never look back.

Mixed greens and spring onions are best seed-sown straightforwardly where they are to be developed — making sure your soils have been limed 2 weeks before planting.

In most cool areas, don't try gambling seedlings of tomato, capsicum, pumpkin, zucchini, and cucumber, the soils are still too cold. I always say if you can't sit on the soil bare bottomed these plants will not grow. However, you could start planting up some seeds for transplanting further into the season and giving yourself some succession planting.

Late peas can be sown into soil advanced with mushroom compost and pounded cow poo. They are cool-atmosphere plants so get the plants to start podding up as ahead of schedule as could reasonably be expected.

Spring is the ideal time for working out in the garden.

The blend of outside air, warm daylight and exercise is a sound method to unwind and taking the time to appreciate the addiction of gardening. What's more, it enables us to deliver the best sustenance we can eat — the food we develop ourselves in our own gardens. This is the thing that great living is about.

Happy Gardening

Susan Hutson