



A great time of year

This is a good time of year to check your clippers and secateurs in readiness for July pruning.

Ensure that all your standards are securely tied, to protect them from snapping in strong winds.

We all like to know that we are helping to minimise the damage to our planet – something so simple like making your own compost is a great contribution.

Milk is a wonderful foliar feed for plants; it helps build the immune system and strengthens the plants.

An inexpensive way to get rid of weeds growing in a lawn is to put white vinegar in a spray bottle and spray every fourth day.

Apply insectide granules to all Conifers now through to September.

Remember the wild life in the garden as food is scarce in winter! Plant shrubs rich in nectar like: - Wild dagga, Halleria and Aloes. Any scrapes from the kitchen table will be most welcome.

Italian Parsley contains a very high percentage of vitamins A and C it is also an immune booster and an antioxidant. A tea made from the leaves will lift your spirits and boost your overall system.

QUIZ OF THE MONTH

Enter and stand a chance to win a prize!

- 1) Name two **winter** vegetables that can be grown at this time of year?
- 2) Is frost more likely to appear if the night sky is **clear** or **clouded** over and why?



Winter jobs to keep you warm during winter

- * Remember that autumn is an excellent time to plant trees and shrubs, due to the weather being cooler - plants establish themselves more easily.
- * Clean up all your garden beds before winter arrives, rake up any fallen leaves as well as any other debris that might have collected in the bed. Now loosen the soil. The reason we do this, is to expose any insects that may be sheltering in the soil.
- * Cover frost sensitive plants as early frost is predicted.
- * If you have conifers in your garden, start applying insecticide granules now, as the damage they cause is only evident during the summer months.
- * Pinch out growing tips of annuals, such as Iceland Poppies and Pansies to encourage bushier growth. To get a longer flowering out of our annuals remember feeding is most important.
- * Lift and divide any over grown perennials.
- * Stop feeding and scale down watering of indoor pot plants

- * Adjust your watering times, as the temperatures drop.
- * Plant shade loving Camellias in your garden to provide colour during the cooler months, even when not in bloom the shiny dark green leaves will provide an attractive back-drop to any garden.



Watch out for our great specials on Camellias at the next garden club meeting.

OUR NEXT MEETING

Date: 4th June 2009
Time: 1:30 for 2:00p.m.
Venue: Lifestyle lecture hall
Topic: Growing your own veggies
Speaker: Jane Grithiffs



*Yours in
the garden*

Pam Groen

This Newsletter is produced for the members of the Lifestyle Soweto Garden Club

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