

April 15, 2012

Vegetable garden:

- Before planting tomato plants in a vegetable garden, make sure the soil pH is 6.5-6.8. Use a *Luster Leaf pH* tester for easy testing. If the pH is too low, use *Bonide Hydrated Lime* to increase the pH.
- The strongest, best yielding tomato plants, are the plants planted after the last frost date in your area. If you want early tomatoes, then grow some *Better Boy Tomatoes* in a 3 gallon pot now. Then in 2-3 weeks, when the soil is warm enough (after the last frost date), transplant the tomatoes into your vegetable garden . While the tomatoes are potted, feed with [Neptune Harvest Fish and Seaweed Fertilizer](#). Potting the tomatoes and later transplanting will allow you to have tomatoes 2-3 weeks early. After the tomatoes are planted in a garden, feed with *Plant Trust Vegetable and Flower Fertilizer* for best results. The trace elements and minerals in [Plant Trust Vegetable and Flower Fertilizer](#) will help enhance the taste of your tomatoes.
- Do not attempt to plant squash, cucumber, beans, melons, or okra yet. The soil is too cold. For best results, planting times for the mid-Atlantic and northern areas should be from May 10th to June 10th depending on your location. The further northern and higher the elevations, the planting time should later.
- For safe insect control in your vegetable garden use [Clear Choice Green](#). It can be used right up until the day of harvest. For more information on *Clear Choice Green* visit www.todayclearchoice.com

Trees and shrubs:

- Spend some time adding trees and shrubs to your landscaping now while the supplies are good at your local nursery. Only plant locally grown plants because they will be better suited for your climate region. Not only can cold temperatures of the winter be an issue, so can the heat and humidity of the summer.
- Lilacs planted this spring should be containerized, young plants. The easiest and most dependable varieties to grow are the common, old-fashion, tissue grown, angel white lilac or the common blue lilac. Borers in existing lilacs can be prevented by applying [Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control](#).

Flowers:

- The best summer annuals for mixed containers or planters are zonal geraniums, white bacopa, angelonia, blue wave petunia, dracaena spike, and nemesia.

Lawn:

- Due to the lack of rain, your lawn may be dry and is likely in need of watering. It is unusually dry on the east coast right now.
- If your lawn has not yet been fed with [Turf Trust](#), it should be fed as soon as possible. Lawns that are not fertilized will be overtaken by weeds and, in shaded areas, moss. A lawn fed with *Turf Trust* will be denser leaving no room for weeds.
- View the [Kick Start Organic video](#) on the video page to see the remarkable results from our [Kick Start Organic](#) and *Turf Trust* tests.