



bugust is an excellent time to prepare beds for fall planting. Cutting back annuals and re-fertilizing may extend and renew the blooms on some plants. Pull out plants that look tired and spent. August is hot so don't forget to thoroughly water the garden and lawn if rains are scarce.

Late season bloomers are beginning to come into their glory now. What could be prettier that pineapple sage's bright red flowers covered with yellow sulfur butterflies and hummingbirds.

## CULTURE

Continue replenishing the mulch in your flower beds. This will help keep the weeds down and the soil cool and retain soil moisture.

Remember to keep caladiums well watered.

Divide overcrowded clumps of daylilies and Louisiana iris. Cut back to a few inches if unsightly.

## ROSES

Mid-August is the time to prune roses. This will prepare them for their fall bloom. First cut back any stems with die-back. Cut out any crossing branches. Prune to a height of 3 feet for hybrid teas and just lightly for grandifloras and floribundas.

Care must be taken not to remove too many of the leaves as these are needed for photosynthesis. Shape the miniatures lightly. Make cuts 3/4 inch above a bud, pruning so that the top bud faces outward from the plant If you suspect canker die-back, dip pruners in alcohol or 10% Clorox solution. Fertilize after pruning to encourage new growth. See February for recommendations.

## LAWN

Apply granulated fungicide to control brown patch. Brown patch damage looks like large circular patches of yellow or brown grass. The outer edges are yellowish-brown, but the inside of the circle often remains green. A patch growing through cool weather is probably this fungus. If this problem has been present during last fall or winter, the lawn should be treated the last part of this month even if it appears to have disappeared during warmer weather.

#### VEGETABLES

Leave peppers, eggplants and okra in your garden. They will continue producing through the fall.

# PRESERVING WITH GLYCERIN

Use glycerin preservation for magnolias, camellias, hollies, iris, ivies, maple, oak and eucalyptus. In August and early fall, pick mature leaves and branches up to 2 feet long. Remove the bark from the bottom 2 inches of thick branches and cut angled slices deep into the stem to enlarge the absorption surface. Place the cut ends in 1 1/2 inch deep solution of 1 part glycerin to 2 parts warm water. Store in a warm room to soak for a least 2 to 3 weeks. Remove from solution, hang on clothesline to drip, rinse with warm water and pat with paper towels.

# DRYING

Gather and dry garden and roadside flowers for fall and winter arrangements. See July for microwave drying.