

Garden

By February 15th, many cool-season vegetables like cabbage, carrots, lettuce, peas and potatoes can be planted. ([HLA-6004](#))

Cool-season vegetable transplants can still be started for late spring garden planting.

Base any plant fertilization on a soil test. For directions, see fact sheet [L-249](#) or contact the OSU Extension Office (918-746-3701).

Avoid salting sidewalks for damage can occur to plant material. Use alternative commercial products, sand or kitty litter for traction.

Clean up birdhouses before spring tenants arrive during the middle of this month.

Provide feed and unfrozen water for your feathered friends.

Spray peaches and nectarines with a fungicide for prevention of peach leaf curl before bud swell. ([EPP-7319](#))

Choose fruit varieties that have a proven track record for Oklahoma's conditions. Fact Sheet [HLA-6222](#) has a recommended list.

Begin planting blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, grapes, asparagus and other perennial garden crops later this month.

Collect and store graftwood for grafting pecans later this spring.

Mid-February is a good time to begin pruning and fertilizing trees and small fruits.

Lawn

A product containing a mixture of glyphosate (e.g. RoundUp) and a broadleaf herbicide/pre-emergent can be used on dormant bermuda for weed control in February if/when temperatures are above 50°F at night.

Landscape

If precipitation is deficient (1" of snow = ~ 1/10" of water), water lawns, trees, and shrubs, especially broadleaf and narrowleaf evergreens. Double check moisture levels in protected areas, such as under eaves or in raised planters. Watering deeply before predicted hard freezes will reduce the chance of winter damage.

Fertilize trees, including fruit and nut trees and shrubs, annually. ([HLA-6412](#))

Dormant oil can still be applied to control mites, galls, overwintering aphids, etc. ([EPP-7306](#))

Gall-producing insects on oaks, pecans, hackberries, etc. need to be sprayed prior to bud break of foliage.

Look for arborvitae aphids on many evergreen shrubs during the warmer days of early spring.

Finish pruning shade trees, summer flowering shrubs and hedges. Spring blooming shrubs such as forsythia may be pruned immediately after flowering. Do not top trees or prune just for the sake of pruning. ([HLA-6409](#))

Most bare-rooted trees and shrubs should be planted in February or March ([HLA-6414](#)).

Force spring flowering branches like forsythia, quince, peach, apple and weigela for early bloom indoors.

Forced spring bulbs should begin to bloom indoors. Many need 10 to 12 weeks of cold, dark conditions prior to blooming.

Feed tulips in early February.

Wait to prune roses in March.

The dreary weather of January and February is a good time to sit back and design your landscapes for spring. The Oklahoma Proven selections at www.oklahomaproven.org offer lots of ideas for trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals.