



## ***Gardening by the Moon***

September 2023



## **Fall Color**

By Dr. Robert Moon

If you want to create a color scheme for this Fall to get you into a festive mood, a combination of marigolds and crotons all have great fall colors. There are many varieties of marigolds and crotons to make your selection from.



French Marigold Bolero



French Marigold Colossus



French Marigold Fiesta



French Marigold Harmony



African Marigold Mandarin



French Marigold Lemon Drop



French Marigold Naughty Marietta

You can also embed crotons among the marigolds to create more interest.



Zanzibar Croton



Red Iceton Croton



Mrs. Iceton Croton



**Mammy Croton**



**Gold Star Croton**



**Florida Select Croton**



**Magnificent Croton**

You can plant these in beds and pots at this time. A few pumpkins and bales of hay can round out your fall look.



If you cannot find any of these varieties at your garden center, just pick from any of the marigold, croton varieties, or other fall colors they have in stock. These plants will die at the first freeze, so don't get too attached, but enjoy the beauty while it lasts.

BONUS PLANTING TIP: Want to add more evergreen winter and spring flowering shrubs to your yard? Then, check out Camellias! They come in a broad color palette, from white, pink, red, and yellow. Camellias prefer acid soils, so add plenty of acid compost to the soil in pots or beds and plant only a few as accent plants. They work great to add interest to your backyards.



---

## SLIME FLUX

By Jacob Cheatham

Is your tree leaking sap? The extreme heat further stresses many trees that have previously suffered freeze damage. In many cases, especially with Elm trees, this is causing a bacterial disease called Slime Flux, which appears as a discoloration on the trunk due to leaking sap.

## Slime Flux



To treat Slime Flux, spray your tree's trunk with Talstar (Bifenthrin) or Neem Oil. We also recommend applying the fungicide Garden Phos at the base of your tree. Hopefully, this will help your tree recover with treatment and the cooler temperatures ahead!

---

## Fall Vegetable Garden

The following vegetables can be planted by the end of September:

- Beets\*
  - Planting Depth: 1 inch
  - Row Distance: 12-24 inches
  - Crop Height: 1.5 feet

- Spring Date: Feb. 1- Feb. 15
- Fall Date: Sep. 1- Oct. 1
- Days to Maturity: 50-60
- Varieties: Pacemaker III
- Bush Beans
- Broccoli
- Cabbage\*
  - Planting Depth: .5 inch
  - Row Distance: 24-36 inches
  - Crop Height: 1.5 feet
  - Spring Date: Feb. 1- Feb. 15
  - Fall Date: Aug. 15- Sep. 30
  - Days to Maturity: 60-90
  - Varieties: (spring) Early Jersey Wakefield; (spring and fall) Sanibel, Rapid Ball, Savoy Ace (wrinkled leaves), Ruby Ball (red)
- Carrots
- Onions (plants or seeds)\*
  - Planting Depth: .5-1 inch
  - Row Distance: 12-18 inches
  - Crop Height: 1.5 feet
  - Spring Date: Jan. 1- Feb. 15
  - Fall Date: Aug. 15- Sep. 15
  - Days to Maturity: 90-120
  - Varieties: (yellow) Texas Supersweet (1015Y), Beltsville Bunching; (red) Red Granex, Burgundy; (white) Crystal Wax
- Collard Greens\*
  - Planting Depth: .5 inch
  - Row Distance: 18-36 inches
  - Crop Height: 2 feet
  - Spring Date: Feb. 1- Mar. 3
  - Fall Date: Aug. 25- Sep. 20
  - Days to Maturity: 50-80
  - Varieties: Blue Max, Georgia
- Swiss Chard
- Chinese Cabbage

- Kale
- Greens
- Lettuce
- English Peas
- Spinach\*
  - Planting Depth: .5 inch
  - Row Distance: 12-18 inches
  - Crop Height: 1 foot
  - Spring Date: Jan. 20- Mar. 10
  - Fall Date: Sep. 15- Nov. 1
  - Days to Maturity: 40-60
  - Varieties: Bloombdale, Melody, Coho, Iron Duke
- Turnips\*
  - Planting Depth: .5 inch
  - Row Distance: 12-24 inches
  - Crop Height: 1.5 feet
  - Spring Date: Feb. 1- Mar. 10
  - Fall Date: Aug. 25- Nov. 1
  - Days to Maturity: 30-60
  - Varieties: (spring or fall) Tokyo Cross, Royal Globe II, White Lady; (fall only) Just Right

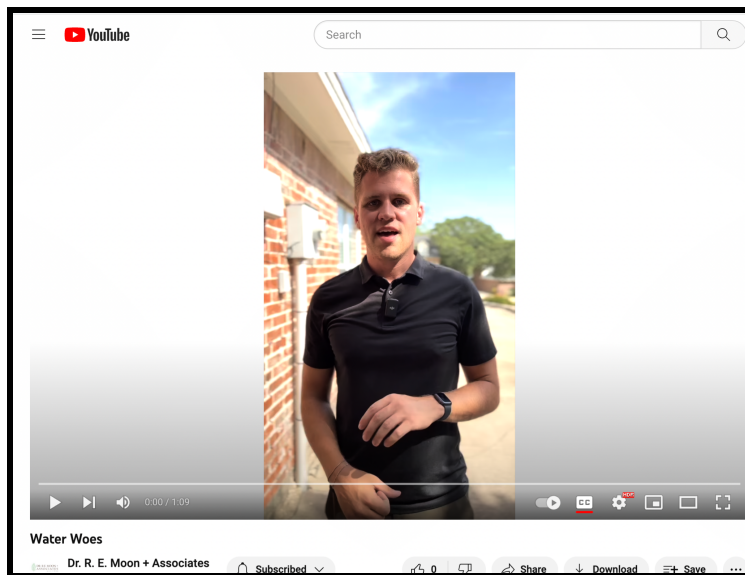
Dr. Moon's top recommendations include beets, cabbage, collard greens, spinach, and turnips. Onions can be planted only if you find the sets. All others can be planted from seed.

---

## September Landscape Maintenance List

- Remove weeds from beds
- Remove dead branches and dead plants from beds
- Prepare soil to plant fall or winter color
- Plant new fall plantings
- Fertilize turf and beds \*use a slow-release fertilizer that has a high first number on the bag
- Add no more than 2-inches of mulch to beds and tree rings
- For weed control, apply pre-emergent weed control to beds and turf between September 15th to October 15th \*use *Preen* or *Halts*
- Monitor watering
- Control weeds in turf
- Aerate turf

**DON'T FORGET to SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube & VIEW OUR VIDEOS for pro landscaping tricks and tips!**



**You can also find us on TikTok, Facebook, & Instagram**