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Prepare final beds for planting flowers and vegetables. You may consider renting or buying a garden tiller to speed up the process; however, a strong back and a garden fork will still do an excellent job. For every 100 square feet of bed area, work in a several-inch layer of either compost, pine bark, or sphagnum peat moss, plus 5 pounds of balanced fertilizer. See the planting guide on Aggie Horticulture for the average last killing freeze date for your area. Remember that killing freezes can occur after this date. Plant warm-season vegetables from seed, according to the planting guide on Aggie Horticulture; prime planting time for corn, beans, squash, etc. <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/archives/parsons/earthkind/ekgarden14.html>

Often, tomato and pepper plants started outdoors from seed will grow so quickly they will catch up with commercial plants in size within a few weeks. For many gardeners, this is the only way to obtain rare or heirloom varieties. But because this has been a winter with erratic weather patterns, it's best to keep an eye on young tomato transplants so that they may be covered if the threat of a late frost occurs. Don't be in a hurry to set out young pepper plants. Wait until the temperatures seem to be settled. Many opt to pot up their transplants in larger containers in order to grow a larger root system prior to planting and make for easy moving of the plants inside in case of a late spring frost.

Pruning of evergreens and summer-flowering trees and shrubs is typically completed in early March; however, it is best to take a wait-and-see approach this year. Prune spring-flowering trees and shrubs as soon as they finish blooming.

Select and order caladium tubers as well as geranium and coleus plants for late April and early May planting. Do not plant caladiums until soil temperature reaches 70°F.

Dig and divide summer and fall flowering perennials just before they initiate their spring growth.

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As camellia and azalea plants finish blooming, fertilize them with three pounds of azalea-camellia fertilizer. Check mulch on azalea and camellia beds and add where needed. In North Texas, there is still time to plant seeds of your favorite annuals in flats to be transplanted out-of-doors when the danger of frost is past.

Beware of close-out sales on bare-root trees and shrubs. The chance of survival is rather low on bare-root plants this late in the season. Your best bet at this time of year is to depend on container-grown or balled and-burlapped plants for landscape use.

Start hanging baskets of petunias and other annuals for another dimension in landscape color. Plant dahlia tubers in fertile, well-drained soil.

One attractive begonia plant can yield a number of others through careful rooting of stem cuttings & Fertilize roses every 4 to 6 weeks from now until September.

Blue Plumbago (*Plumbago capensis*) can be planted now for season-long low maintenance color. It is usually cold hardy to Zone 8 and sheltered places elsewhere. Although tolerant of sunny conditions, blue plumbago prefers a little protection from the hot afternoon sun. It is quite a drought tolerant and blooms from spring till frost.

Now is a time to thin larkspur, zinnia, cockscomb and cosmos seedlings. Plants will bloom much better if thinned to about 4" apart. Transplant or share the extras with gardening friends.

Also, prime time to establish, renovate, and/or aerate lawns. Repot overgrown container plants as well as plant containers of tropical plants for a stunning display of summer color.

Enjoy spring-blooming wildflowers and make a note to not mow until they have set and realized their seed. Remember, wildflowers, will respond to fertilizer just as other plants.