

## What to do in December

### **General Tasks**

**Use** straw to keep the soil warm around parsnips.

**Protect** the brassicas from the pigeons or any other pests by using nets.

**Continue** to hoe any weeds off the bare grounds.

**Continue** the winter digging as long as the grounds are not too wet. Add organic matter to improve the soil.

**Make** sure all tools and equipments are cleaned and sharpened before putting them away.

**This** is the time to do any building, repairing or treat the fencing and timber structures.

**Move** any pots that aren't frost proof indoor or wrap them with fleece.

**Scoop** up the dead leaves and rotten plant debris from the ponds.

**Make** sure to fill up the bird feeders and have enough water for the birds during winter times.

**Check** that the structure for the winter protection is secure.

**Keep** mice away from the stored produce.

**Make** sure that the ponds and stand pipes are not in danger of being frozen.

**Sort** out the compost heaps in the bays or bins. Repair any bays if required.

### **Greenhouse**

**Clean** the greenhouse before insulate it with bubble wrap.

**Prune** any indoor vines.

**Keep** an eye on the weather to make sure that greenhouse's heating has been set correctly.

**Ventilate** the greenhouse during warmer days to prevent moulds from getting established.

**Continue** to sow winter salads in succession.

## Fruits

**Winter** prune the apple trees.

**Cut** back the autumn raspberries bushes to ground level.

**Take** hardwood cuttings of soft fruits.

**This** is a good time to split rhubarb to rejuvenate the plants.

<b>Sow Now</b>	<b>Plant Now</b>	<b>Harvest Now</b>
Winter Salad (indoor)	Garlic	Brussels sprouts
Parsley (indoor)	Winter lettuce	Potatoes
Basil (indoor)	Rhubarb	Beetroot
Dill (indoor)	Fruit trees	Celeriac
Chives (indoor)	Fruit bushes	Parsnips
Broad beans (outdoor)		Swiss chard
		Perpetual Spinach
		Swedes
		Winter cabbages
		Lettuce
		Cauliflowers
		Broccoli
		Turnips
		Leeks
		Endives
		Kohl Rabi
		Salsify
		Scorzoneria
		Savoy
		Kale
		Cabbages
		Jerusalem Artichokes