

What to do in May

General Tasks

Jack Frost may still be lurking around so be ready to cover your young plants with cloche. Wait a while later to plant out.

Earth up the potato beds.

Keep an eye on any sneaky pests like slugs or snails. Use organic treatments for pest control. Encourage wildlife into your garden i.e. Frogs, Birds, Hedgehogs etc. they will prey on your enemies.

Sow salad leaves and radishes in between rows of Brassicas, Parsnips, Carrots and Onions as catch crops.

Keep top of the weeds by hoeing. But any deep rooted weeds can't be killed off by hoeing, you will need to dig up the weeds with the roots (if possible) before they become too big or flowered.

Any sowing made in March needs to be thinned out but don't do into their final spacing. Take this opportunity to clear the weeds too and the thinnings can be used as early harvest.

Beetroot will bolt prematurely if they suffer when the weather is hot and dry.

Mulched and water young plants regularly.

In The Greenhouse

Don't forget to remove side shoots of the tomato plants and provide support.

It is worth a while to practise succession sowing / planting or it may save you a lot of time from sowing by buying young and healthy plants.

Keep an eye on the plants' health i.e. Aubergine, Pepper, Tomatoes etc. greenfly causes leaf curl, distortion, growth stunt and the plants won't reach its full potential.

Use dilute soapy water or organic pesticide.

Don't leave the ventilation and door open during night time. You may still get frost at this time.

Fruits

Complete pruning of Almond, Peaches and Nectarines. Remove any dead and diseased plants or crossing branches.

Continue to plant strawberries and water it during dry spell. Remove any virus disease plants.

Remove any weeds from under any fruit bushes.

You may want to use a few layers of fleece to protect the fruit blossoms from any potential air frost.

Feed the fruit bushes and trees with high potash fertiliser.

Remove any discoloured or signs of mould on fruits.

Sow Now

Beetroot

Lettuce

Salad Leaves

Winter Cabbages

Peas

Radish

Spring Onions
Spinach
Carrots
French Beans
Broccoli
Brussel Sprouts
Cauliflowers
Celery
Kale
Endive
Oriental Cabbages
Chard/Leaf Beet
Turnips
Runner Beans
Courgette
Sweetcorns
Pumpkins/Squash
Cucumbers
Chicory
Radicchio
Coriander
Sage
Thyme
Parsley
Melons
Swede

Plant Now

Potatoes
Tomatoes
Aubergines
Peppers
Brussels Sprouts
Celery
Celeriac
Pot Grown Fruits
Strawberries
Lettuces

Harvest Now

Salad leaves
Radish
Swiss Chards
Lettuce
Early peas