

POTTERY FIESTA

DECEMBER PLANTING TIPS:

- Select Poinsettias, Christmas Cactus, Living Christmas Trees, and Amaryllis.
- Cool weather annuals including petunias and petunia hybrids, alyssum, cyclamen, geraniums, lobelia, pansies, snapdragons, stock, violas, calendulas, stock, dianthus, Iceland poppies, primrose, venidium, godetia, gazania and linaria.
- RELY ON PANSIES, VIOLAS, AND CYCLAMEN FOR COLOR IN THE DEAD OF WINTER.
- Plant seeds of carrots, lettuce, peas, radishes, and spinach.
- Plant cool weather herbs such as mint, parsley, rosemary, and thyme.
- Irrigate established trees and shrubs about every three to four weeks.
- Pruning makes a plant want to put out new growth. Avoid pruning now as any new growth is more susceptible to damage from the cold. In addition, foliage left on the plant can provide some protection from frost.
- Deciduous trees and shrubs (plants that lose their leaves in winter) are best pruned the middle to end of January.
- Evergreen trees and shrubs should be pruned when danger of frost has passed, often late February into March and April.
- THE AVERAGE DATE OF THE LAST KILLING FROST IS ABOUT MARCH 15.
- Have Frost Cloth handy and be prepared to cover frost sensitive plants on evenings when we have frost warnings.
- Harvest grapefruit this month. Begin testing for flavor at the beginning of the month. Fruit left on the tree will continue to ripen. Most grapefruit should be ready for harvest by Christmas.
- Do not feed roses. Continue to cut back on watering. You should be down to a once a week schedule by the end of the month.
- Feed winter lawns regularly with Food. Late in month, start tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants indoors.