

Jobs for the Month – March

- Complete the pruning of gooseberries and autumn raspberries before the end of the month
- Plant shallots, garlic and onion sets if conditions allow
- Apply a general purpose fertiliser and mulch to beds and borders to boost plants and shrubs and lock in the moisture from winter rains
- Renovate overgrown climbers such as honeysuckle by cutting hard back and feeding with a general purpose fertiliser such as Growmore or Blood, Fish and Bone
- Plant and divide herbaceous perennials
- Top dress container grown plants with fresh compost; remove the top couple of inches of old compost
- Start canna lilies into growth by watering more frequently and applying a weak liquid feed such as Phostrogen at each watering
- Cut back over-wintered pelargoniums, fuchsias and other tender perennials
- Plant out first early potatoes
- Pot up begonia tubers
- Stop watering poinsettias; wait for the leaves to drop then shorten the stems to 3 or 4 buds; keep at 13°C
- Trim ornamental grasses : festuca, Pampas and stipa grasses can be cut to ground level; Miscanthus should be cut to 8 – 10cm
- Sow hardy annuals in pots or modules
- Pot up cuttings of tender perennials taken last summer