

QldOrganics GARDENING Guide

MAY 19
EDITION

WHAT TO HARVEST

from your organic garden

- Apples
- Avocados
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Egg plants
- Leeks
- Lemons
- Pears
- Mandarins
- Turnips



PLANT OF THE MONTH

Crocus (Iridaceae)

Colour: range from white or pale pink and lavender, to more intense shades of blue, violet, purple, orange, pink or ruby.

Crocuses are great little bulbs to naturalise in grass beneath deciduous trees, or to plant in groups near entryways. Scatter them in small groups, the results will be beautiful. Once planted, Crocus need no further care and will give you pleasure for years on end with even more flowers, as they continue to multiply. Whilst Crocuses do perform best in cold climates, in mild-winter climates you can chill bulbs in the refrigerator for six weeks before planting and they will love you for it. Crocuses make a magnificent show in the garden, in window boxes and in flowerpots, so they are versatile for any home.

Amazing Fact - Crocus flowers close at night and on rainy days ☺



TIPS FROM THE Farm

Role of Amino Acids in modern agriculture

Amino acids in plants initiate biochemical responses even at low concentration much like the hormones do function.

The question is how absorption takes place and how much is taken up by the crop.

Can plants absorb the entire amino acid molecule sprayed on as foliar application? It is still a mystery in science. However, the benefits of amino acids impacting on micro-organisms sheltered in soil or on crop is more understood. It is always beneficial to opt for a soil application of amino acid formulation in the same context as soil fertilization vs crop fertilization. Ideally stated, fertilizers and amino acids are meant to feed soil sheltered biological life that in turn will help and sustain the developing crop.

It is also well understood that amino acids at soil level are excellent chelators which allow the solubilisation and the transfer of insoluble nutrients into the plant. Queensland Organics, based on the unique amino acid composition of collagen peptides; glycine, hydroxyproline, proline and alanine, has formulated a compost blend that can stimulate significant responses at a low financial outlay and a low environmental impact achieving better results than the costlier and much more harmful chemical counterparts.



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WHAT TO PLANT



Herbs

TROPICAL Basil, borage, chicory, coriander, fennel, French tarragon, garlic, ginger, horseradish, mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage.

SUBTROPICAL chicory, coriander, fennel, garlic, oregano.

COOL TEMPERATE fennel, garlic, oregano, parsley



Garden Bug FACTS



Caterpillars

Caterpillars are an important part of the Australian environment. The thought of the caterpillar becoming a beautiful butterfly is appealing, yet when they get hold of your broccoli plants, they can devour the lot!! And what about the stinging kind...? Look out for Spit Fire Caterpillars in your back yard. These little guys have pockets of stinging spines that they stick out when they feel threatened.

Did you know?

Caterpillars are great escape artists. Although they are not fast enough to run away from a predator, they can bungee jump instead! When threatened, many caterpillars drop off the leaf but remain attached by a fine piece of silk. When the coast is clear, they can climb back up to safety. Amazing! ☺

VEGGIE PATCH TIPS

- Pull out leftover summer veggie plants or turn into the soil.
- Revitalize the soil with compost and manure.
- Plant loads of winter veggies & herbs to use in stews & soups over the coming months. Nothing beats the flavour of slow cooked fresh herbs!
- Gather fallen autumn leaves to add to your compost heap. Add some Organic Xtra as a starter to boost along the breakdown.
- Remove dead fruit from trees to prevent disease spreading

