



February in the Garden

This time of year, we can still get lots of hot & dry days so mulching and watering are still important. But in the  heat of the day when you have a spare moment it is always good to do some autumn planning. Look at seeds you may need to get started now, crop rotation and what new varieties you have found to give a go.

Keep your eyes open for the Tomato  Caterpillar (budworms). Unfortunately, the first sign may be the fruit starting to rot as the moth responsible feeds and lays its eggs at night. The Caterpillars start feeding on the soft foliage until they work up the courage to burrow into the developing fruit. Try spraying the tomato plants with something like Dipel which is a natural bacterium that is digested by the caterpillar, but it will need to be done every 10 days.

If you are wondering what to do with all the excess produce from your garden why not try some fermenting, dehydrating, or preserving. Then if this is not your cup of tea why not bring your excess along to the Food is Free pantry or a local produce swap.

 **Seeds to plant-** Beetroot, Carrots, Fennel, Leeks, Lettuce, Mustard Greens, Radish, Turnips, Swedes

 **Seedlings to plant-** Broccoli, Kale, Lettuce, Silver beet, Shallots(bulbs)

 **Herbs to plant** - Chives Garlic, Coriander, Oregano, Parsley



Cockatoo Community House

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