

April in the Garden

As we move into the middle of Autumn, the last of the summer vegetables are being harvested and the ripening of fruit like Apples 🍏, Pears 🍐, Figs & Feijoas begins. Preparation & planning of beds for your winter crops may have begun, what new varieties do you think you will try this year?

If you still have tomatoes plants in the beds it may be time to pull them out. If they still have fruit on them its best to pull out the entire plant and hang it upside down in your garage or shed to allow the fruit to ripen. If they mature and turn red (yellow, orange, or black) then maybe you could make passata or 🍅 tomato sauce. If they are still green it may be Green tomato relish for you!

Leek seed is best planted now as it often takes around 8 weeks for them to big enough to be planted out into your beds. Once you have either raised the seed or bought seedlings you can plant them out in beds at a depth of up to 10cm and around 5cm apart with rows being 30cm apart. An open sunny position with loose well composted soil is what Leeks like along with soil that drains well. Covering the stems with a pipe or a carton will make them stay white and tender. Its best to harvest prior to flowering but leaves and flowers are edible.

🍅 **Seeds to plant**- Broccoli, Cabbage. Cauliflower, Kale, Radish, Spinach

🌱 **Seedlings to plant**- Asian Greens, Bok choy, Lettuce, Spinach, Snow peas.

🌿 **Herbs to plant**- Marjoram, Mint, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme.



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