



What To Plant And Do In Your Food Garden In May

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WHAT TO PLANT IN MAY (Ballarat & district) *		
FROM SEED	FROM SEEDLING	IN SEEDLING BOXES #
Broad Beans Garlic (bulb) <u>Pea - bush</u> <u>Pea - climbing</u> <u>Rocket</u> <u>Spinach</u> Spring onion	Broccoli Cauliflower kale <u>Lettuce</u> <u>Pak Choi</u> ¹ Spring onion	<u>Lettuce</u> <u>Onion + onion</u> Spring onion

* Key vegetables only, not all vegetables that can be planted at this time are listed. # Sow in seedling boxes for planting out in four to six weeks time. ¹ Best sown in single cell seedling trays as these seedlings don't like their roots being disturbed when transplanted. UNDERLINE Grow in greenhouse or polytunnel. DOUBLE UNDERLINE Grow in seedling hot box. RED DOUBLE UNDERLINE Grow in artificially heated seedling hot box.

- Only apply mulch to beds that are being fallowed. As the weather cools down weeds won't be as big a problem so there is no need to mulch to retard weeds. Instead lightly hoe using a draw hoe or a wire weeder.
- Lift tomato plants that still have tomatoes on them and hang them up upside down in a dry place with good ventilation. As the plants dries off many of the remaining tomatoes will ripen up.
- If you have an automatic watering system then switch off all the outlets to the garden and reduce the time and frequency of outlets to the greenhouse or covered verandah pots.

WHAT TO DO IN THE VEGGIE PATCH

- Lift any beds that still have summer crops in them and prepare them for spring plantings.
- Harvest your pumpkins before a heavy frost strikes and store in a dry place with good ventilation. When harvesting them leave about fifteen centimetres of stalk on each pumpkin, if the stalk is removed at the base of the pumpkin it creates an exposed area where bacteria can enter. Any pumpkins without a stalk attached should be eaten first.



Store pumpkins in a dry place with good ventilation. These pumpkins have been stored in an old bird aviary.



When harvesting pumpkins leave about fifteen centimetres of stalk on the pumpkin.

WHAT TO DO IN THE GREENHOUSE

- Pull out the remaining summer greenhouse crops and plant rocket, peas plus lettuce and Chinese vegetable seedlings.
- Leave some space for later plantings of lettuce seedlings in June and July and a place for a propagation box to start growing next season's seedlings in August.

WHAT TO DO IN THE GARDEN

- Spray peach and nectarine trees at leaf fall with Bordeaux mix to control leaf curl.



May is a good time to do development projects such as building a new raised vegetable bed.

- Apply dolomite around stone fruit trees. You can also use sieved fire ash.
- Start winter pruning fruit trees that have cast their leaves.
- Finish pruning berry bushes and heavily mulch around them.
- May is a good time to do some garden development projects as there is less day to day work required and there will still be some milder weather before the really bad winter weather sets in. Projects like adding raised beds or extending paths are all easier to do at this time of the year.

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