

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- The hummingbirds are back in San Antonio. Plant cross vine, salvia, zinnias, firebush, and cape honeysuckle to provide nectar. Bring the birds in for close observation with a sugar water feeder hanging on your eaves or trellis. Mix one-part sugar with four parts water by volume.
- Bedstraw and beggar's lice are two weeds producing seeds now that stick to pets. Use a rake to collect the bedstraw. Hand pull or cut beggar's lice with a string mower. Both can go in the compost pile.
- For cut flowers this summer plant zinnias in a raised bed in full sun. The showy flowers are also a favorite nectar source for hummingbirds and butterflies. Seed-eating birds will eat the seeds if you allow them to mature. Use Dreamland transplants or plant California Giant and Cactus zinnias by seed.
- Plant tomato and pepper transplants in the vegetable garden. Plant green beans, cucumbers, cantaloupe, and squash by seed. Use tatum squash seed if you have had trouble with squash vine borers.