

Express News Garden Tasks

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- It is time to consider pulling out your old tomato plants from the spring. If they are left in place further into the summer, expect them to produce more spider mites and fungus symptoms than tomatoes. It is recommended to plant new tomato seedlings in late July.
- In addition to stink bugs, lace bugs, cucumber beetles, caterpillars and other insects eating on the flower and vegetable plants, slugs and snails have been very active. Control them with slug and snail bait. Review the labels and select the version that best meets your needs. Even plastic cups half filled with beer and sunk throughout the garden will do an effective job of controlling the pests.
- It is a good time to reseed zinnias in your cut flower and butterfly gardens, use seed produced by the Dreamland Hybrids or your other selections. Another option is to buy seed packets for California Giants, Cactus and other tall selections. They make excellent cut flowers and are a favorite nectar source for pollinators.
- Use begonias, coleus, or caladium for color in the shade. In addition to zinnias, use moss roses, purslane, celosia, and vinca in the full sun. Cora vinca is both deer proof and aerial phytophthora resistant.