

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Sweet pea seeds can be collected in their pods and planted next fall. The seeds are usually viable if they reach full size in the pod and the pod begins to turn brown before they are collected. Store them in a paper sack in a temperature-controlled room.
- Reduce mosquito production in the landscape by emptying all containers that hold stagnant water. Old pet dishes, tires, toys, and even plastic pieces can collect water and hatch mosquitos. A Bt product for the purpose can be used in ponds and rainwater collection tanks. A dilute solution of bleach (1cup of 5.25% bleach per 12 gallons of water) will also work in rainwater storage containers. The bleach is considered a pesticide so follow label instructions.
- For color in the shade use caladium, coleus, or begonias. The Whopper begonias are especially showy.
- Firebush, poinciana, esperanza, thyrallis, and duranta are drought tolerant, tall blooming plants for the full sun. Deer do not eat thyrallis, esperanza, poinciana and firebush in most neighborhoods.