

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Animal plants

Here is a partial list of the excitement to come with animal plants:

Lambsquarter	Zebra plant
Cats Ear	Lambs Ears
Chickweed	Bear's Breeches
Coyote Bush	Trout Lily
Buzzard Breath	Pigsqueak (Bergenia)
Duck Salad	Cardinal Flower
Cockle Bur	Deer fern
Fleabane	Deer tongue
Henbit	Dragon lily
Goosefoot	Snapdragon
Turkey Mullein	Catchfly
Horseweed	Foxtrot
Pigweed	Horsetail
Prickly Oxtongue	Lion's Tail
Goose Grass	Lobster Claws
Foxtails	Mouse plant
Cattails	Ox-eye daisy
Swinecress	Panda wild ginger
Birdseye Pearlwort	Pig butt
Goosefoot	Rabbit's foot fern
Fat hen	Porcupine Agave
Dogwood	Tickseed
Elephant Ears	Toad lily
Catnip	Wormwood
Deerweed	Cranesbill geranium
Wolfsbane	Lion's Ear
Dogbane	Turtlehead
Foxglove	Spider plant
Henbane	Crabgrass
Horse Chestnut	Scorpions tail
Leopard's Bane	Flamingo flower
Bee Balm	Kangaroo paw
Monkey Grass	Bunny Tails
Donkey Tail	Butterfly weed
Butterfly Bush	Partridge Berry
Locust Tree	Fishtail palm
Cockscomb	Leopard's bane
Gopher Plant	Zebra grass
Hen and Chicks	Spiderwort
Pussywillow	Squirrel cup
Skunk Plant	Wake robin
Snake plant	Dinosaur tree
Starfish Flower	Hedgehog echinacea

Treat your animal plants with care.

Amuse yourself, your family, and your friends with your garden barnyard!

Happy Gardening and Happy Growing!

Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Gardening Tips

- **SPREAD** a blanket on the lawn and look toward the heavens to see animal shapes in the clouds.
- **DRY** herbs by hanging bunches upside down in a dry place, like a garage or shed. Dry lavender, sage, thyme, rosemary, and oregano. Store the dried leaves in a jar.
- **DOUSE** weeds with a concoction of white vinegar and liquid dish soap. To a gallon of the vinegar, add a capful of dish soap, shake in a spray bottle, and use proactively.
- **GATHER** the seeds of fennel and cilantro after the flowers are spent. Dry the seeds on a cooking sheet. Cilantro seeds are called coriander. Both add flavor and texture to both sweet and savory recipes.
- **PRESERVE** flat-leaf parsley, basil, and chives by freezing them in ice cube trays. Put a spoonful of the chopped leaves in each cell, add water, and freeze. When you want a dash of fresh flavor, pop an ice cube.
- **PLANT** edamame and sweet potatoes, both warm-weather crops. The soil needs to be warmer than 60 degrees. Plan on harvesting edamame in 90-100 days when the pods are plump but still green for a heart healthy omega 3 boost. To make potassium-rich sweet potatoes sweeter, store at 90 degrees for two weeks after harvesting.
- **DEADHEAD** roses, annuals, and perennials as blooms fade to keep them coming through frost.
- **GROW** celery by rooting the base of your store-bought vegetable. Put the stub in a glass jar filled with water in a sunny location, then transplant the root to a container or garden.
- **HARVEST** cucumbers and make an easy spicy summer snack as well as a soothing eye pack. Peel, slice, add red onions, rice vinegar, and marinate for one hour in the refrigerator. Save the peels to place on your eyes to eliminate puffiness after swimming.
- **WATCH** butterflies pollinate your flowers as they flutter from blossom to blossom on monarda, tithonia, sunflowers, zinnias, butterfly bush, cosmos, alyssum, marigolds, thyme, oregano, and marjoram.
- **EXTEND** your garden's production with a second season planting of beets, scallions, kohlrabi, chard, broccoli, lettuce, peas, and carrots to carry your fresh offerings into late fall.
- **TOSS** a salad comprised of edible herbs, tender leaves, and fruit from your garden including basil, sage, thyme, lovage, fennel, arugula, spinach, chives, chard, tarragon, kale, beet tops, lettuce, cilantro, parsley, sorrel, apples, and plums dressed with lemon juice and olive oil for a tasty jolt of mineral rich nutrition.
- **SHARE** your excess vegetable and fruit harvest with the neighborhood and take the extras to the local food bank for those in need to savor.

CORRECTION: In my June 22 column regarding California native trees, a reader, M. T. asked me to clarify that several of the trees listed are not true California natives. While many are not endemic to California, all are well-adapted to California gardens and grow well. My error for not being more precise. Thank you for caring.