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# GardenMail

GardenShop's Monthly eZine



February 2012

Dear Gardener

Happy New Year!

Here at GardenShop we've got everything you need to make 2012 your best gardening year ever. Whether you're starting with a new garden or a determined resolution to spend more time in your garden, we've got the tools and plants you need to succeed.

The ground has been saturated with the recent and much appreciated rains giving us ideal conditions to continue with mulching and adding organic material to all your beds. It is also an excellent time to sow vegetable and herb seeds before the soil starts cooling down. Look out for the new season's seed stock that will make its way to our garden centres.

GardenShop continues to offer sizzling hot summer prices on a range of gardening products. It is worth looking out for the Pleactranthus Jazz varieties – new to the gardening scene these spectacular plants will certainly jazz up any garden.

Happy gardening!

*Deborah*

## In this month's GardenMail

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## February Gardening Guide

### Flowers

- Deadhead plants like roses, cannas, agapanthus, daisy bushes, pelargoniums and dahlias – this will keep your garden looking tidy and will encourage more flowers
- Take cuttings of easy-to-grow plant favourites like fuchsias, daisies, germaniums, penstemons and salvias
- Start preparing trenches for sweet pea seed planting
- Sow flower seeds like ageratum, alyssum, antirrhinum, arctotis, aquilegia, campanula, carnation, candytuft, chrysanthemum, dianthus, delphinium, foxglove, gaillardia, gazania, godetia, gypsophila, hollyhock, impatiens, marigold, nasturtium, nigella, petunia, penstemon, phlox, primula, scabious, statice, stocks, verbena, zinnia
- Spray Roses to control black spot mildew and aphids
- Water hanging baskets and containers at least once a day and feed once a week

## Summer Sizzlers! GardenValues



### Seed Scatter and Flower Bumper Packs

Sow now for lovely swathes of flowering colour in Autumn

**GardenValue Price:**  
**R34.95**

**Sunpatiens Mixed Varieties**



Impatiens for hot sun

**GardenValue Price:  
Buy 5 for R100**



**Wonder Organic Granules Vita Boost 5kg**

Organic granular fertiliser ideal for general garden use.

**GardenValue Price:  
Buy 2 for R100**



**Plectranthus Jazz Varieties**

This new Plectranthus hybrid that flowers profusely from summer to autumn in five big colours: White, Variegated White, Pink, Dark Pink and Purple. The flowers stand proud above their velvet green foliaged backdrop. A strong compact grower with large trumpet shaped flowers suitable for beds, pots and hanging baskets. Ideal for shady areas that receive only filtered sunlight.

**GardenValue Price:  
R39.95**



**Ludwig's Insect Spray 200ml**

Broad spectrum organic insecticide for the control of insects on edible crops, roses, herbs and ornamentals.

*Contains: Garlic juice extract, canola oil, natural pyrethrum (pyrethrins)*

**GardenValue Price:  
Buy 2 for R100**

**\* Offers available until the end of March 2012**



### Vegetables and Herbs

- Sow vegetable seeds like beans, beetroot, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onion, parsley, peas, rhubarb, radish, spinach and turnip
- Sow herb seeds like anise, basil, borage, caraway, celery, chervil, chives, coriander, dill, fennel, garlic chives, garden cress, marjoram, parsley, rosemary, sage, summer savoury, tarragon, thyme.
- Remove straw from under Strawberries when they have finished fruiting



### General Tasks

- Don't mow your lawn too low in the heat, keep the blades longer and this will keep the lawn cool and promote deeper root development.
- Divide easy to grow perennials and groundcovers like agapanthus, wild iris, red hot pokers, ornamental grasses and day lilies.
- Control snails naturally by sprinkling crushed eggshells, macadamia nut shells or sawdust around the plants
- Use Ludwig's Insect Spray Plus to control ants in the garden
- Renew mulch to keep beds cool and to retain water

Decorative metal wall art. Available in white, black or rust.



### Orchids For Valentine's Day

Exotic with natural simplicity, and dramatic with quiet splendour, GardenShop's Valentine's Day orchids express your love and admiration exquisitely.

**Tips for keeping your Orchids in tip top shape:**

**Light:** Keep shaded from bright, direct summer sun as this can scorch the leaves. Give as much light as possible during the dull winter months.

**Humidity:** High humidity is a must -- 60-80 percent humidity is ideal. Mist leaves every morning and set pot on a tray of wet pebbles.

**Water:** Water the mix thoroughly, then allow the top few centimetres to dry out between waterings. Do not let the soil get soggy because it causes root rot.

**Fertilise:** Feed every 2 weeks spring through autumn with an orchid fertilizer diluted by half. Do not feed in winter.

**Soil:** Orchid potting mix, or finely ground bark.



### GardenShop Solutions to Growing a Shade Garden

Shade gardens are gardens planted and grown in areas with little or no direct sunlight during the day, either under trees or on the shady sides of buildings. Plan ahead and plant flowering perennials that will brighten up pockets of shade.

These easy-to-grow plants will come back and flower year after year:

**Ajuga**

This topnotch groundcover is grown mainly for its foliage, but also has pretty flowers. Ajuga produces glossy, dark green leaves and springtime spikes of blue flowers. Select varieties that offer dark purple or variegated foliage, or pink or white flowers. Ajuga grows best in Zones 3-9 and grows only 6 inches tall.

*Garden Tip: Ajuga can be a vigorous spreader; it's not the best choice for small spaces.*

**Clivia (Bush Lily)**

Indigenous perennial. A Clivia plant will produce dense clusters of lily-like flowers. Equally important, the strap-like, dark evergreen leaves are virtually blemish free, making Clivia an

attractive foliage plant, even when not in bloom.

**Lilyturf (Ophiopogon)**

Loved for its grassy foliage and spikes of blue or white flowers in late summer. It is one of those plants that you plant- it and forgot residents.

*GardenTip : Lilyturf can be a fast, almost aggressive spreader when it's happy.*



**GardenRewards :: Earn Triple Rewards**

Over and above getting your 5% reward on every purchase at GardenShop, GardenRewards members will receive TRIPLE REWARDS on a selection of advertised items.

- Gardena Pressure Sprayer 5l
- Owl House (including instructions and saw dust)
- Seagro 500ml
- Bougainvillea 'Tropical Rainbow'



**Win with Trafalgar/GardenShop In Store Competition**

at leisure  
by **TRAFALGAR**



## WIN a trip for two to The Netherlands!

Complete an entry form in store and stand a chance to win a trip for two on the Best of Holland, Belgium & Luxembourg Trafalgar guided holiday with entry to Floriade!

\* Conditions apply

### Contacting Us

To provide you with excellent service we have a team of dedicated and passionate gardening experts and there are several ways of directing your gardening queries to us:

Visit our website: [www.gardenshop.co.za](http://www.gardenshop.co.za), call 0861 G A R D E N or alternatively email us on [info@gardenshop.co.za](mailto:info@gardenshop.co.za).

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