

Plant Ranch Nursery

THINGS TO DO IN JULY AND AUGUST

- 1. Lawn Maintenance.** If for any reason you skipped any fertilizer applications, now is the time to fertilize using a slow release fertilizer such as Classic Lawn Food with slow release nitrogen, which you can purchase at Plant Ranch.
- 2. Irrigation Systems.** The rains have reappeared, and therefore our irrigation systems should be set back to our routine settings. No need for supplemental watering, as long as the storms continue.
- 3. Lawn Diseases.** Watch for pythium root rot, gray leaf spot and fairy rings. Gray leaf spot is one of our biggest problems in St. Augustine lawns. Look for areas of yellow or thinning grass and examine leaf blades for spots. They will be gray to tan with a dark border. Fungicides are available at Plant Ranch to control these problems. Watering early in the morning and only when needed will help you control these problems.
- 4. Lawn Insects.** This is the time of the year for chinch bugs, mole crickets, grubs and sod webworms on your lawns. Check your lawn weekly for these insects. We stock both granular and liquid insecticides for these problems.
- 5. Insect problems.** Check your plants weekly for insects such as leaf beetles, scale and caterpillars. If treatment is needed treat only the infected plants using a friendly insecticide such as soaps, oils, neem oil or BT. Use of these products will help to protect our beneficial insects.
- 6. Lawn mowing.** Be sure to keep your blades sharp and only remove 1/3 the height at each mowing. Avoid mowing when grass is wet to minimize disease.
- 7. Fruit Trees.** It is time to fertilize your fruit trees. A good fertilizer would be citrus blend, available at Plant Ranch. Frequent applications through September are necessary.