



Portstone

GARDEN CENTRE

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Newsletter for September

Spring has sprung early this year. The daylight hours are getting longer, the weather warmer and spring flowers are in abundance everywhere. Portstone is full of shrubs and perennials in full flower now; large grade azaleas in a range of colours, pieris (Lilly of the Valley shrub) has colour all year round, blue flowering veronica ground cover, lavenders in flower and a good old favourite, **Daphnes**, both pink and white plus many more.

The bedding area is gearing up for a busy season with petunias, lobelia, impatiens and many others in store now.

Its time to plan what will go in your hanging baskets this season. One Colourwave Petunia will fill a basket and give easy care flowering right through to the end of autumn. Impatiens and lobelia planted densely round the top and sides of your basket will look lush and full.

Fuschias in baskets are so colourful and can be jazzed up by adding annuals for even more colour or little foliage plants for contrast.

Strawberries work well in baskets too, as the fruit hangs down. Add violas for colour and ivy to trail down. The combinations are endless. Use a good quality potting mix and if you are planting densely, then add some slow release fertilizer and some water storing granules.

It's time to start planting the vegetable garden. **Broad beans** should be in by now although it's not too late if you haven't.

All the **brassicas** can be planted now along with lettuces, silverbeet and spinach. Sow carrot and beetroot seeds directly in the soil.

Feed your vege patch with Tui Vegetable Food. Sprout **potatoes** now. We have planter bags designed especially for potatoes, making it so easy when space is an issue. Fill your bag with Tui Vegetable Mix for best results, then feed with Tui Potato Food. We also have potting mixes and fertilizers formulated especially for **strawberries** or **tomatoes**.

Rhubarb and **Passionfruit** are in store now along with Yellow Guava, something different to try. We still have fruit trees, **kiwifruit**, hazels, grapes etc but they are selling fast.

Lawns need some attention soon; apply a slow release fertilizer. Scotts is a good one.

September is when we have our spring carpark sale and this year it's full of top quality **rhododendrons** and **camellias** in bud and about to flower. Over 50 varieties for you to choose from. Also bush and standard roses for a really good price.

There is also a good selection of shrubs to choose from, including, feijoas, viburnums, magnolias, pittos and hebes.

Come in and speak to our knowledgeable and friendly staff.

Join our Portstone Garden Club to receive monthly newsletters, exclusive offers and competitions.