



## Some must have plants!



*Heliotropium (vanilla bush)*



*Thunbergia (black eyed Susan)*

- Heliotropium (vanilla bush) is best planted in a spot that allows you to enjoy the scent of its vanilla, a good idea for planting would be near to a front door or patio.
- Philadelphus (mock orange) sweetly scented with stunningly beautiful small white flowers – a joy when planted near your entertainment area.
- Thunbergia (black eyed Susan) a quick growing twining perennial, although sometimes treated as an annual; it is a very dainty climber which is ideal for growing on a fence or in a hanging basket. Self seeds easily.

## Hello and welcome to another year of gardening !

The New Year gardening scene is full of promises as we gardeners 'return to the soil'. Late December, gardens burst forth without us noticing and suddenly one ends up living in a summer jungle, making January the time to 'shape' the garden. By cutting 'openings' into your over hanging shrubs, the plants below will grow better and the increased light will add more dimension to the deeper garden beds.

Summer annuals have almost reached their peak, so to ensure you have a good final burst of colour - keep deadheading and feed every second week with Multifeed.

The heat during January catches everyone, even those of us who love summer! So take this opportunity to plant a small shade tree.

### Suggested Trees are:-

*Silver Birches, Nuxia floribunda, Wild Olives, Wild Pear and the Lavender Tree.* A consideration is, whether to plant an evergreen or a deciduous tree.

Deciduous trees lose their leaves once a year whilst evergreen trees generally loose leaves throughout the year. Also bear in mind, that we need every bit of winter sun we can get! So do not plant evergreen trees on the north side of your property.



*Nuxia floribunda*

Try not to turn your garden soil unnecessarily; as you disturb the roots of your plants and the water in the soil evaporates much quicker. Early morning watering in our hot weather is far preferable to the late afternoon - because it is essential for the leaves to dry before nightfall. If your plants are left moist at night you have a far greater chance of getting fungal disease which are so prevalent in our hot months.

With the abundant amount of rain we have had, all of the necessary elements have been leached out of our soil - therefore it is vital that we replace these elements. Here is a little rhyme to help you remember the ratio:-



#### Leaves and Shoots (3)

this promotes leaf growth and greenness.

#### Stems and Roots (1)

this promotes strong and healthy roots.

#### Flower and Fruits (5)

this promotes profusion of flowers and fruit.



## Our first meeting of the year, will be in Lenasia!

**Date:** 3rd November  
**Time:** 1:30pm for 2:00pm  
**Venue:** 24 Impala Crescent Ext. 5 Lenasia.  
Opposite Parksure laboratory



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