



World Bio-diversity day is on the 22nd May!

You can play your part on this day by using non-toxic pesticides in your garden or by planting shrubs that will attract wildlife into your garden.

Plants like; Buddleja's that attract butterflies into your garden or Salvia's that attract bees. A further suggestion would be to reduce your lawn area, as lawns are water guzzles replace with a veggie patch.

Remember this winter

For a winter display plant the petunias, pansies, primulas, calendulas, poppies and violas. However, don't forget to add a few bulbs into your winter/spring gardens, bulbs like irises, freesia, tulips and tulbagia

Our visit to Doonholm Nursery

Our May meeting will be an away meeting we are going to Doonholm Nursery - please please as always, No children, friends or family as per owners request. (members only).

Please see the map attached for directions.

P.S. Please bring cash as you will be able to buy at unbelievable prices!

MAY MAYBE COLD

- May is likely to be a very cold month with strong possibilities of frost and biting winds. So, do be prepared...remembering tender plants will require protection. The long winter months are often associated with bare bleak and colourless spaces in the garden! but this need not be the case! The solution is to fill the gaps with winter flowering bedding plants.
- Sow seeds of - Iceland poppies, calendula, Virginian stocks, poppies and Namaqualand daisies
- Remember to water your garden deeply **twice a week** instead of giving it a light sprinkling **every day**; as this will also encourage your plants to established strong roots making them stronger. Avoid digging over the soil in your garden beds unnecessarily as this leads to rapid moisture loss and also disturbs the valuable creatures that live in our soil like the earthworms.
- Spray conifers with a pesticide to keep aphid's infestation under control. Spray roses with a multipurpose fungicide against rust, mildew and black spot. Queen of the winter garden, must be the Camellias! Stunningly beautiful, they have a very long flowering season but even **when not in flower** their beautiful dense glossy evergreen foliage is most attractive – making them an all year beauty!! Deep watering prevents bud dropping.
- Autumn leaves are nature's blanket for winter; either make leaf compost with them or alternatively spread them over the soil to protect your tender plants during winter.
- Remember not to forget your Lemon trees during winter - as they do require a good soaking **twice** a week.
- It is important to keep your garden clean and tidy this month and not have little heaps of vegetation lying around as this will harbour pests like slugs and snails.

Worry is like a rocking
chair, it will give you
something to do, but it won't
get you anywhere or solve
any problem...



OUR NEXT MEETING

Date: 10th May 2014
Time: 1:30pm for 2:00pm
Venue: Doonholm Nursery
Topic: Herbs for health