



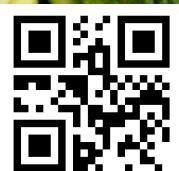
What to plant in October

Vegetables

- **Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea*):** Ideal for the season, prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil.
- **Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea* var. *botrytis*):** Needs a cool climate and is best planted in rich soil.
- **Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*):** Prefers cool and semi-shady spots with regular watering.

Herbs and Aromatic Plants:

- **Parsley (*Petroselinum crispum*):** Plant in semi-shady spots with good soil.
- **Dill (*Anethum graveolens*):** Prefers sunny spots but can also tolerate shade.
- **Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*):** Heat and drought-resistant, prefers sunny spots.



Bulbs

Daffodils (*Narcissus* spp.):

- Care: Prefer sunny or semi-shady spots and well-drained soil.
- Planting Tips: Plant at a depth of about 10-15 cm and space them 10-15 cm apart. Daffodils are particularly hardy and add bright yellow flowers to the garden.

Tulips (*Tulipa* spp.):

- Care: Need sunny spots and well-drained soil.
- Planting Tips: Plant at a depth of 10-12 cm and space them 10 cm apart. For best results, plant in a cool place and water regularly.

Crocus (*Crocus* spp.):

- Care: Prefer sunny or semi-shady spots with well-drained soil.
- Planting Tips: Plant at a depth of 5-8 cm and space them 5-10 cm apart. Crocuses are ideal for creating colorful garden paths.

Freesia (*Freesia* spp.):

- Care: Prefer sunny spots and well-drained soil.
- Planting Tips: Plant at a depth of about 5 cm and space them 10 cm apart. Freesias add a pleasant fragrance and color to the garden.

Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus orientalis*):

- Care: Prefer sunny spots and well-drained soil.
- Planting Tips: Plant at a depth of 10-15 cm and space them 10-15 cm apart. Hyacinths are known for their intensely aromatic flowers.



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Fruit Trees:

Citrus (Citrus spp.):

- Orange Tree (*Citrus sinensis*): Ideal for Cyprus's climate, prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil.
- Lemon Tree (*Citrus limon*): Hardy and thrives in warm and sunny locations.
- Mandarin Tree (*Citrus reticulata*): Needs protection from strong winds and prefers mild temperatures.

Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*):

- Drought-resistant, prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil.

Fig Tree (*Ficus carica*):

- Suitable for planting this season, prefers well-drained soil and needs sunlight.

Olive Tree (*Olea europaea*):

- Ideal for planting in autumn, adapts easily to the Mediterranean climate, drought-resistant, and prefers sunny spots.

Pear Tree (*Pyrus communis*):

- Prefers cool climates but can be grown in warmer areas with proper care.

Apple Tree (*Malus domestica*):

- Suitable for semi-mountainous and mountainous areas of Cyprus. Needs well-drained soil and prefers sunny spots.



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Ornamental Plants:

- **Alternanthera:** Needs sunny spots and regular watering.
- **Kentia Palm (Kentia palm):** Prefers semi-shady spots and tolerates warm conditions.
- **Cestrum nocturnum (Night-Blooming Jasmine):** Plant in sunny spots, blooms at night.
- **Euonymus (Euonymus):** Needs well-drained soil, resistant to climatic changes.
- **Olive Tree (Olea):** Heat-resistant, prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil.



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Grasses are an excellent addition to any garden, offering beauty, texture, and movement with their fine leaves and flexible stems. They are ideal for decoration, creating natural barriers, and improving soil structure.

Varieties of Grasses:

Muhlenbergia:

- Description: Grass with fine leaves and long, thin stems that create an impressive, airy effect.
- Care: Prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil. Drought-resistant and requires minimal care.

Pennisetum setaceum (Purple Fountain Grass):

- Description: Grass with dark purple leaves and long, cylindrical flowers that resemble brushes.
- Care: Prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil. Drought-resistant and adapts easily to various environments.



Grasses: A Guide to Cultivation and Care

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Cortaderia selloana (Pampas Grass):

- Description: Large grass with broad, tough leaves and impressive white or pink flowers that grow on long stems.
- Care: Prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil. Drought and cold-resistant.

Miscanthus sinensis (Chinese Silver Grass):

- Description: Grass with fine, silver leaves and white or pink flowers that appear in autumn.
- Care: Prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil. Hardy and easy to maintain.

Festuca glauca (Blue Fescue):

- Description: Small grass with blue-gray leaves that form a compact tuft.
- Care: Prefers sunny spots and well-drained soil. Drought-resistant and ideal for small gardens and containers.



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Planting Grasses:

Location Selection:

- Choose sunny spots for most grasses, although some varieties may tolerate partial shade.
- Ensure that the soil has good drainage to avoid root rot.

Soil Preparation:

- Clear the area of weeds and improve soil structure by adding organic materials like compost.
- Apply a thick layer of organic fertilizer to boost plant growth.

Planting:

- Plant grasses in spring or autumn when temperatures are mild.
- Place the plants at distances proportional to their size, allowing enough space for their growth.



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Care and Maintenance of Grasses:

Watering:

- Water newly planted grasses regularly until they are established.
- Once established, most grasses are drought-resistant and require minimal watering.

Fertilization:

- Apply a balanced fertilizer in spring to boost plant growth.
- Prefer organic fertilizers to improve long-term soil fertility.

Pruning:

- Prune grasses at the end of winter or early spring to remove old and damaged leaves.
- Use sharp pruning tools for clean cuts.

Weed Control:

- Use organic mulching materials around plants to suppress weed growth and maintain soil moisture.
- Remove weeds by hand to avoid using chemical herbicides.

Pest and Disease Protection:

- Grasses are generally resistant to pests and diseases, but monitor plants for any issues.
- Use natural insecticides or biological methods to control pests.



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Harvesting and Storing Summer Crops

Harvesting the last summer vegetables and fruits is crucial to ensure the freshness and quality of your produce. Here is a guide for harvesting and storing summer crops so you can enjoy them throughout the winter.

How to Harvest the Last Summer Vegetables and Fruits:

Ripeness Check:

- Ensure that vegetables and fruits have reached the correct stage of ripeness. For example, tomatoes should be red and firm, while peppers should have a bright color.
- Use clean and sharp tools to avoid damaging the plants.

Harvest in the Morning:

- Prefer to harvest the produce in the morning when they are fresher and cooler.
- Avoid harvesting during the hot hours of the day, as this can affect their quality and shelf life.

Careful Handling:

- Handle vegetables and fruits with care to avoid bruises and scratches that can cause rot.
- Use baskets or crates for transport, avoiding compression.



Ways to Store and Preserve for the Winter:

Refrigeration:

- Place vegetables like peppers, cucumbers, and carrots in the fridge to keep them fresh for a longer period.
- Use plastic bags or airtight containers to reduce moisture loss.

Freezing:

- Freeze fruits like berries, peaches, and apricots to preserve them for months.
- Cut the fruits into small pieces, place them on trays, and freeze them before transferring them to freezer bags.

Drying:

- Dry vegetables like tomatoes and herbs to use them as seasonings and additions to your meals.
- Use a dehydrator or the oven at low temperature to dry your produce.

Canning:

- Can vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, and zucchini in jars to preserve them for the winter.
- Follow proper canning procedures to ensure the safety and quality of your products.



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Winter Flowers and Ornamental Plants

Winter can be a season of rich blooming and beauty in your garden if you choose the right flowers and ornamental plants. Here is a guide to plants that bloom in autumn and winter, along with care and planting tips.

Which Flowers and Ornamental Plants Bloom in Autumn and Winter:

1. Pansies (*Viola tricolor*):

- Description: Small flowers with bright colors that withstand cold.
- Care: Prefer sunny or semi-shady spots and well-drained soil.

Chrysanthemums (*Chrysanthemum*):

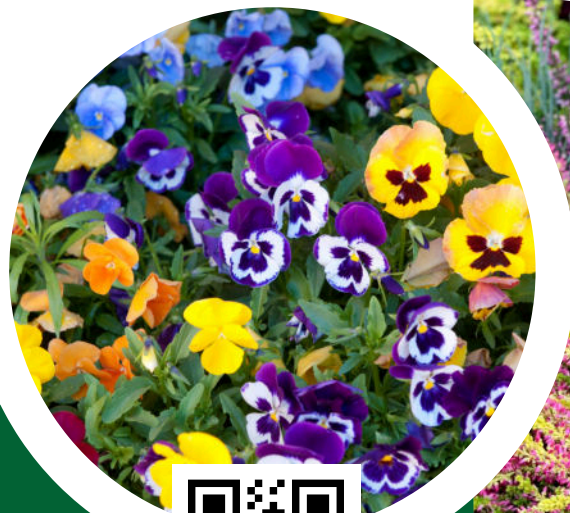
- Description: Flowers with a wide variety of colors and shapes that bloom in autumn.
- Care: Love the sun and well-drained soil.

Heather (*Erica carnea*):

- Description: Small flowers that bloom from autumn to spring, adding color to the winter garden.
- Care: Prefer sunny spots and acidic, well-drained soil.

Ixora (*Ixora coccinea*):

- Description: Small flowers in large clusters, ideal for tropical gardens.
- Care: Prefer sunny spots and well-drained soil.



Care and Planting Tips:

Location Selection:

- Plant flowers in spots that receive plenty of sunlight, as sunny spots help with blooming during the winter months.
- Ensure that the soil has good drainage to avoid problems with root rot.

Watering:

- Water the plants regularly, especially during dry winter periods.
- Avoid overwatering, as it can cause problems with plant growth.

Fertilization:

- Use a balanced fertilizer every few weeks to boost plant growth and flowering.
- Prefer organic fertilizers to improve long-term soil fertility.

Cold Protection:

- Use covering materials such as fabric or plastic to protect sensitive plants from frost.
- Apply a layer of organic materials like straw around the base of the plants to maintain soil temperature.



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Protecting Plants from the Cold

Winter can be a challenging season for plants, especially in areas with low temperatures and frost. Here are techniques for protecting plants from frost and cold winds, as well as using covering materials and other protection methods.

Techniques for Protecting Plants from Frost and Cold Winds:

Use of Covering Materials:

- Cover plants with special frost protection fabrics or plastic covers to protect them from the cold.
- Ensure that the covers are well-secured to prevent them from being blown away by the wind.

Soil Layering:

- Apply a thick layer of organic materials like straw, leaves, or compost around the base of the plants to maintain soil temperature and protect roots from the cold.
- Soil layering also helps retain soil moisture.



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Use of Windbreaks:

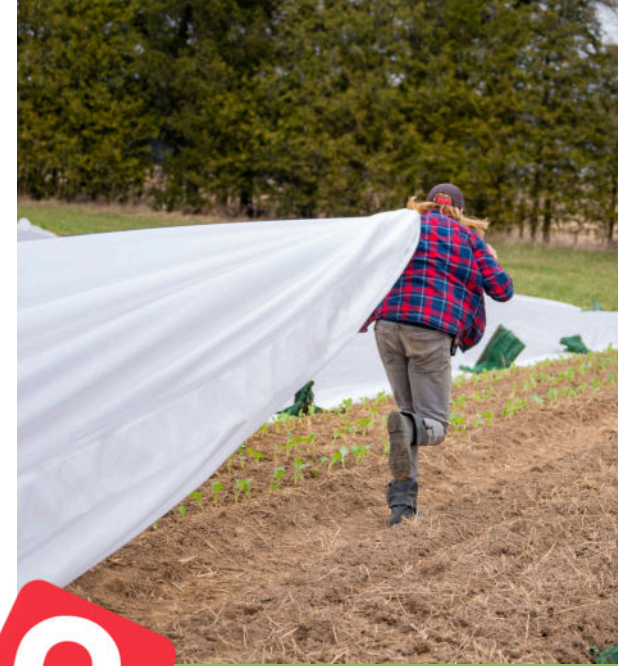
- Place fences or other structures to protect plants from cold winds.
- You can also use tall plants or shrubs as natural windbreaks.

Indoor Relocation:

- Move pots and containers with sensitive plants indoors or to greenhouses during cold nights.
- Ensure that plants receive enough light and ventilation in these spaces.

Watering Before Frost:

- Water plants during the day before an expected frost, as moist soil retains temperature better than dry soil.
- Avoid overwatering to prevent root rot.



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A Tribute to the Chrysanthemum Plant

Chrysanthemums (Chrysanthemum) are one of the most popular flowers in the world, known for their vibrant colors and rich blooming. In Cyprus, with its warm and dry climate, chrysanthemums can adapt and thrive with proper care. Here is a complete guide to growing and caring for chrysanthemums, tailored to Cyprus's climatic conditions.

History and Origin:

Chrysanthemums originate from East Asia, particularly China, where they have been cultivated for over 2,500 years. From China, they were introduced to Japan and later to Europe, where they became beloved for their beauty and variety.



Chrysanthemum Varieties Suitable for Cyprus:

Chrysanthemum morifolium (Classic Chrysanthemum):

- Characteristics: Large flowers in a variety of colors such as white, yellow, pink, and red.
- Adaptation: Heat-resistant and prefers sunny spots.

Chrysanthemum indicum (Indian Chrysanthemum):

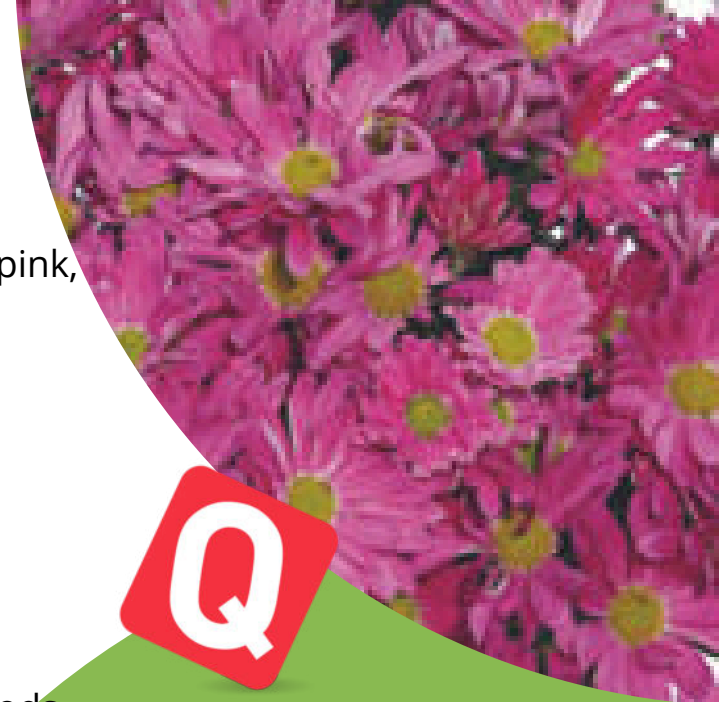
- Characteristics: Smaller flowers, often in dense clusters.
- Adaptation: Suitable for semi-shady spots, heat, and drought-resistant.

Chrysanthemum x grandiflorum (Large-flowered Chrysanthemum):

- Characteristics: Very large flowers, often with double petals.
- Adaptation: Ideal for sunny spots, requires regular watering during hot periods.

Chrysanthemum segetum (Field Chrysanthemum):

- Characteristics: Wild variety with small, yellow flowers.
- Adaptation: Drought-resistant and suitable for natural gardens and lowland areas.



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Planting Chrysanthemums in Cyprus:

Location Selection:

- Prefer sunny spots, as chrysanthemums need plenty of light to bloom richly.
- Ensure that the soil has good drainage to avoid root rot, especially during the rainy autumn and winter periods.

Soil Preparation:

- Enrich the soil with organic materials like compost to improve its fertility and enhance its ability to retain moisture during the hot months.
- Apply a balanced fertilizer before planting.

Planting:

- Plant chrysanthemums in spring or autumn when temperatures are milder.
- Place the plants at distances proportional to their size, allowing enough space for their growth.



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Caring for Chrysanthemums:

Watering:

- Water chrysanthemums regularly, especially during the dry summer months. Prefer watering early in the morning or late in the afternoon to avoid evaporation.
- Ensure that the soil remains moist but not soggy.

Fertilization:

- Fertilize chrysanthemums every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a balanced fertilizer.
- Prefer organic fertilizers to maintain long-term soil fertility.

Pruning:

- Prune chrysanthemums to maintain their shape and encourage the growth of new shoots. Pruning also helps with better air circulation, reducing the risk of diseases.
- Remove old and damaged flowers to promote blooming.

Disease and Pest Protection:

- Monitor plants for signs of diseases such as powdery mildew and rust. Apply appropriate fungicides if necessary.
- Check plants for pests such as aphids and mites. Use natural insecticides to control them.

Significance and Symbolism:

Chrysanthemums have rich symbolic significance in various cultures. In China and Japan, they represent joy, peace, and prosperity. In Europe, chrysanthemums are often associated with the autumn season and All Saints' Day, representing memory and honor for loved ones who have passed away.



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Rust on Plants: Identification, Prevention, and Treatment

Rust is a common plant disease caused by various fungi. The disease affects leaves, stems, and sometimes fruits, causing severe damage if not treated in time. In Cyprus, the climatic conditions with high temperatures and humidity can favor the spread of rust. Here is a guide to identifying, preventing, and treating rust on plants.

Identifying Rust:

Symptoms on Leaves:

- Yellow or orange spots: The first signs of rust appear as small, yellowish, or orange spots on the upper surface of the leaves.
- Orange or brown pustules: On the underside of the leaves, the spots develop into orange or brown pustules containing fungal spores.
- Drying and falling: Infected leaves often dry out, curl up, and fall prematurely.

Symptoms on Stems and Fruits:

- Pustules on stems: Orange or brown pustules may also appear on the stems, affecting plant growth.
- Deformed fruits: In some cases, rust can cause deformities in the fruits, reducing their quality.



Preventing Rust:

Choosing Resistant Varieties:

- Choose plant varieties that are resistant to rust. Consult local nurseries or agronomists for suitable varieties for your area.

Proper Spacing:

- Plant the plants at distances that allow good air circulation, reducing humidity around the plants and the risk of infection.

Garden Cleanliness and Maintenance:

- Remove and destroy infected leaves and plant debris to reduce the source of infection.
- Keep the garden clean and free from weeds that can host the fungus.

Watering and Fertilization:

- Water plants at the roots and not from above to avoid wetting the leaves.
- Use balanced fertilization to enhance plant resistance to diseases.



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Treating Rust:

Natural Methods:

- Removing infected parts: Prune and immediately remove infected leaves and stems to prevent the spread of the fungus.
- Use of compost: Apply compost around plants to improve soil structure and fertility, boosting plant health.

Chemical Methods:

- Fungicides: Use appropriate fungicides to treat rust. Prefer products that are safe for the environment and the biodiversity of your garden.
- Preventive application: Apply fungicides preventively during wet periods or when conditions are favorable for fungal spread.

Biological Methods:

- Use of beneficial microorganisms: Apply biological products containing beneficial microorganisms to combat the fungus.
- Use of natural insecticides: Prefer natural insecticides that do not harm beneficial insects and other garden organisms.



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