



## What's happening in the Veggie patch in August?

During August, the weather will start to 'turn', after a long cold, (sometimes freezing) winter, it's now time to make the most of the slowly warming weather to get out into the garden and see what has been happening over the past few months.

If you have your winter veggies producing well, you are probably enjoying nice hearty soups at the moment. If like many people, you have a garden that has been neglected over the past three or so months, it's now time to dust off the fork and go and start preparing soils for the spring vegetable plantings.

Start by adding compost and manures to your soil, add to this another organic fertiliser like blood and bone or dynamic lifter. Mix all this through the soil using a fork rather than a spade, (a spade may damage worms and other soil 'wildlife'). After this, mulch lightly with pea straw and water well. The mulch will help maintain steady soil temperature, and moisture, to encourage soil microbes to begin mineralising nutrients, making them available to you seedlings at planting time in spring.

### Pest management

Check any slow growing, sickly looking vegetable plants closely for insects and other pests. These plants provide winter shelter for insects, once the weather warms up, these insect will become active and will be hungry, looking for newly germinated seed or fresh seedlings to feed on. So to avoid the carryover of pests and diseases, remove the plants all together giving the garden a 'clean' start for spring.

### Yates Junior Landcare Watermelon challenge

Register your school, kindy or family for the Yates Junior Landcare Watermelon challenge. It's simple; Register online and in October, Yates will send you the seeds to get growing. The team or individual with the heaviest watermelon wins! Register online at: <http://www.landcareonline.com.au/index.php/news/archive/yates-junior-landcare-watermelon-challenge/>. Happy watermelon growing!!

### Some things to plant in August:

- 🍅 Asian Greens, (Bok choy, pak choy)
- 🍅 Asparagus
- 🍅 Broccoli
- 🍅 Cabbage
- 🍅 Cresses
- 🍅 Kohlrabi
- 🍅 Lettuce and other salad greens
- 🍅 Mint
- 🍅 Onions
- 🍅 Oregano
- 🍅 Potato
- 🍅 Radish
- 🍅 Rhubarb
- 🍅 Rocket
- 🍅 Rosemary
- 🍅 Spring onion
- 🍅 Thyme

NB: this list is only an indication of some of the things that can be planted during August, there are many others, depending on where you are in SA.



**Don't forget to check out the Veg2Table facebook page at:**

[www.facebook.com/veg2table.au](http://www.facebook.com/veg2table.au)

**Want to know more, or book an appointment?**

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