

</h3>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">Now is the time to pull up all your spent vegetable plants and sow some lettuce and spinach seeds. Sonia and I have been planting seeds since the middle of September and will continue until it gets too cold. My grandfather, who was a farmer and avid gardener, continued to plant lettuce and spinach in the fall and would sow seeds even in the winter. I remember him telling my father that he could sow these seeds as long as he could scratch the soil because these vegetables grow best in cool weather and can withstand frosts. Besides, only a couple of dollars are at stake, and more often than not, a great harvest of both can be enjoyed. However, cover them at night if you anticipate a hard frost.</p>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">Don◆t dispose of any over ripened okra pods. Just throw them into soups for flavoring. Also, collect all your green, yellow, and red peppers. Wash them, cut them into strips, and place on cookie sheets to freeze them individually so that they are easy to take out and use for recipes. Once frozen, which takes only a few hours, place in freezer bags. This is especially handy for omelets and stir-fry.</p>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">Gather all your green tomatoes for making chutney and fried green tomatoes. A recipe is provided under ◆Come Gather at Our Table.◆</p>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">Dig up your rosemary plant and place in a sunny window so you can enjoy fresh rosemary all winter long.</p>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">This is also the time to collect seeds from any zinnia or celosia plants you might have. Trim your bushes and plant mums. Mums especially look pretty in pots lining front steps.</p>◆ <p style="margin: 0in 0in 0pt; text-align: justify" class="MsoNormal">While this year◆s garden is still fresh in your mind, be sure to make notes in your planner for next year◆s changes. For one thing, I am going to plant more okra plants and group them in one raised bed all by themselves. For another, Jon, the eggplant hater, has asked that I plant less eggplant, maybe one instead of six. Also, I must have more dill. What a pathetic turnout we had this year, considering how much we adore dill in sour creamed cucumbers and on roast beef. We are also going to plant more celosia and cleome seeds this next spring in our flower garden.</p>◆