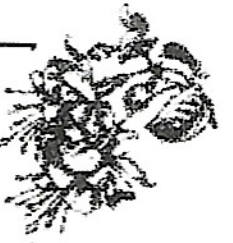


A Fuchsia calendar
 Fuchsias are easy, rewarding plants to grow, but a few timely, monthly reminders will help you to get the best out of your plants



<p align="center">January</p>	<p align="center">February</p>	<p align="center">March</p>
<p>Look over resting plants and make sure they do not completely dry out. The days are beginning to lengthen and young, growing plants from autumn struck cuttings will now perk up as the light quality slowly improves</p>	<p>Start up dormant plants by light mist spraying in the morning to encourage new growth to break from the old wood. Prune old wood to shape the plants and re-pot into fresh gritty compost. New growth will benefit from a little gentle heat. Young plants in 2.5 inch pots may need potting on into 3.5 inch pots.</p>	<p>This is the month for a glut of cuttings. Those taken now will make reasonably sized flowering plants in August and September. Young plants from 3.5 inch pots can now be used to make up baskets. Five plants is a good number for a 14 inch basket. Young plants trained as standards will need regular tying in and potting on to prevent them getting pot bound, otherwise the will flower prematurely. Spray plants on a fortnightly basis with an insecticide</p>
<p align="center">April</p>	<p align="center">May</p>	<p align="center">June</p>
<p>Temperatures now rise sharply under glass and some form of shading is essential. Keep pinching out the growing tips of plants to encourage Bushiness. Keep up a regular feeding programme from now on, with quarter strength balanced liquid feeds at every other watering. Make sure Greenhouses and conservatories are well ventilated. All dead and weak wood on hardy fuchsias can be cut down and plants fed and mulched</p>	<p>Keep potting on and pinching out the growing tips of shoots, remembering that it takes an average 9 – 12 weeks for flowers to open. Remember to set aside some plants for displays and plant sales in the summer</p>	<p>First flowers are now appearing. As flower buds form it is a good idea to change to a higher potash liquid feed to encourage more and more flowers. All fuchsias to be planted out side should be in position at the start of this month. If plants are to be left in the ground over the winter, plant them so that the crown of each plant is 4 – 5 inches below the surface of the soil. This will give the crown protection during the winter. Keep all plants well watered, particularly baskets and hanging pots, which will dry out rapidly. Damp down paths and staging in greenhouses in the early morning to create a humid atmosphere</p>



Gareth Davies (Chairman)
Welsh Affiliated Fuchsia Societies

A Fuchsia calendar

Fuchsias are easy, rewarding plants to grow, but a few timely, monthly reminders will help you to get the best out of your plants



<h1>July</h1> <p>Regularly remove seed pods as flowers fade to encourage plants to continue flowering. Shows and displays will soon be here and it is very satisfying to have one or several of your plants feature in the display. So join in the event which your Society may be organising</p>	<h1>August</h1> <p>Plants are at their best this month and next and will benefit from a general check over each day, Spray immediately if pests are visible. In greenhouses or conservatories with a minimum temperature of 40 – 45f during the winter, this is a good time to take soft tip cuttings. Cut back some plants which are past their flowering best to encourage new shoot growth</p>	<h1>September</h1> <p>Plants outside will relish the moist autumnal evenings and will look at their best. Continue to take cuttings. These will make superb plants for shows and displays next year</p>
<h1>October</h1> <p>Frosts can be expected this month. After the first slight frosting lift plants which are to be overwintered under cover and strip off all the leaves. Fumigate greenhouses to ensure sterile conditions for overwintering the plants. Pot up young, rooted cuttings into 2.5 inch pots of good multi purpose compost</p>	<h1>November</h1> <p>All dormant plants should now be under cover and watering reduced to a minimum. Inspect dormant plants on a regular basis and cover with fleece for frost protection if the are overwintered in a cold greenhouse.</p>	<h1>December</h1> <p>A quiet month, but a good one to order new varieties from a reputable nurseryman for growing next year. I hope these hints are of some use to enable you to have a lot of enjoyment growing your fuchsias.</p>



Gareth Davies (Chairman)
Welsh Affiliated Fuchsia Societies