

AUGUST 2025

THE UTHORT HUB

Official News Hub of the UTHort Team

Welcome FALL!!!

As the dog days of summer end and summer slowly fades, we excitedly welcome fall across the state of Tennessee. Our summer gardens will soon be a distant memory. However, with fall comes yet another opportunity for garden planting, as well as the many tasks to round out our home lawn and landscape chores. As always, we have several great tips and resources to get you growing in the right direction as we welcome falling leaves, crisp air, bonfires, and wooly worms!

Be sure to peruse our vast selection of resources on our [UTHort website](#) to get you off and growing this late summer/early fall season.

2025 Home Garden Calendar ➤

Tennessee
Home Fruit and
Vegetable Garden

2025 CALENDAR

[UTHort
Resources](#) ➤

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Cut Flower Walk and Talk

Join us among this year's trial plots in either Knoxville or Jackson as we share the latest information on crops budget development, marketing insights, and production data to support our Tennessee cut flower growers! Both events are from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For more information (and to register), please visit this site: tiny.utk.edu/WalkTalk2025



Fall Gardener's Festival

With fall right around the corner, we hope that you are making use of great Tennessee Extension resources and programs to support your gardening and horticulture. From websites to publications, to webinars series, there is a great suite of content to support you all.



We also hope you are making plans to enjoy the annual Fall Gardener's Festival hosted by the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture in Crossville on August 26, 2025!

TN State Fair

Have you ever considered entering your bounty in the state fair? Now is your chance!

[Click HERE to access the State Horticulture Competitions](#)

Competitions include:

- Christamsa Tree and Wreaths
- Nursery and Landscaping
- Fruits and Veggies
- Home Brewing
- Flower Show
- Garden Art
- Rose Show
- Wine Show
- Canning
- Honey



Office Hours in Horticulture

Join the UTHort team for FREE live and interactive sessions answering all your lawn, landscape, and garden questions throughout the garden season...
[Sign up for Office Hours Here!](#)

September 12
October 10

Everyone signed up will receive reminder and recap emails!



Follow Us!

Did you know our team posts weekly about issues facing home gardeners in the realm of vegetable gardening, fruit production, and lawn and landscape maintenance? We also share information about upcoming events all across the state you may find interesting and beneficial to support your efforts at home!

Here are the links to follow:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)



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Master Gardener Spotlight

Tennessee Extension Master Gardeners are actively engaged in gardening demonstrations, educational presentations, and citizen science research all across the state! Volunteers are involved with various audiences, including youth, to strengthen horticulture, foster networking and engage clientele in local communities. Be sure to check out your local association to see how you can join in the fun as we begin a new training year in 2026! More details coming soon...

[TN Extension Master Gardener Website](#)

Turf Talk!

Fall Is Prime Time for Planting Cool-Season Grasses

Cool-season grasses like tall fescue grow best when temperatures are between 60–75°F, making fall the best time to seed. This allows grass to establish before the stress of summer. In Tennessee, ideal planting dates vary: mid-August to late September on the Plateau, mid-September to mid-October in central areas like Knoxville and Murfreesboro, and later in West Tennessee depending on the weather. Aim to seed at least 30–45 days before the average first frost when possible.

Choosing the Right Seed

Look for high-quality **turf-type tall fescue blends** from reputable sources. Don't worry about chasing one specific variety—blends can often improve overall performance. In shaded areas, blends that include other species like fine fescues, bluegrasses, or ryegrasses may be more appropriate. When in doubt, look for products labeled for A-LIST approved varieties, which have demonstrated strong performance in low-input conditions.

Some turf-type tall fescue varieties we recommend include:

Firecracker GLS, Grande 3, SuperSonic, Xanadu, Bonfire, Reflection, Lifeguard, Saltillo, 2nd Millennium, and Avenger III.

Check beyond big box stores—local co-ops, garden centers, and suppliers like SiteOne, Dickens Turf & Landscape Supply, or The Hogan Company often offer high-quality selections.

[Discover Turf Resources Here...](#)