

## Reminders and tips for May

- Take action to protect plants if frosts are forecast
- Water plants that need it regularly, they are growing hard
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
- Take softwood cuttings of shrubs
- Lightly trim box and other formal hedging
- Prune *Clematis montana* after flowering
- Take cuttings from herbaceous perennials
- Cut back and divide spring-flowering perennials
- Plant out dahlias by the end of the month
- Protect young plants from slugs
- Clear out spring bedding and begin hardening off summer bedding plants
- Thin out annuals and vegetables sown outdoors earlier
- Feed fish regularly and also give special aquatic fertilizer to water plants
- Feed and weed lawns to encourage good growth as well as mowing regularly
- Sow and plant out tender vegetables at the end of the month
- Protect crops from carrot root fly
- Continue successional sowings of vegetables
- Remove all frost protection from fruit trees and start pruning trained plums and cherries
- Move tender shrubs in pots outside for summer
- Ventilate greenhouses and conservatories and think about permanent shading for summer
- Continue spraying against greenfly and fungus diseases like mildew
- Sow or turf new lawns before it gets too dry