



HAHN NURSERY
5443 Babcock Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-635-7475

Forsythia are Blooming... Plant your Peas and Potatoes and Apply Corn Gluten Meal to Inhibit Weeds

Mother Nature gives us many “clues” throughout the growing season which we can act on or ignore to our own gardening peril. The blooming of forsythias is one of those clues!

During this time of year, corn gluten meal, a natural herbicide used in gardens and lawn to stop the germination of any seed in the soil, is applied. We sell two types of organic corn gluten: Espoma Spring Weed and Feed (available in a bag that covers 2,500 square feet at \$39.99) and Preen Corn Gluten (available in a shaker jug that covers 250 square feet at \$18.99). Both products can be used on lawns, flower beds, and veggie gardens.

It is also the time of year to plant your peas. Get your peas planted if your garden soil is workable and not too wet. Peas like cool weather and moist soil. To extend your harvest, plant different pea varieties. We carry vine varieties as well as bush types. Some Sugar Snap peas mature in 45 days while most Shelling peas mature in 65-70 days.

Potatoes take one hundred days to produce a crop and traditionally, St. Patrick’s Day is said to be the time to plant potatoes. There are many types of potatoes that can be planted during the gardening season. Before you plant your seed potatoes, store them in a cool, dark place to allow them to sprout, which will aid in hastening your harvest.

Potatoes should be planted in 8-10 inches of compost in a tall container and you should cover the tubers with 8 more inches of compost. As the plants grow, add more soil so that the top inch of plant is at soil level. Continue this process until you reach a two foot soil depth in your containers. The plants need to be kept moist. Do not allow them to dry out.

Fertilize your potatoes with an organic fertilizer that you would use on your tomatoes. Harvest them when the leaves start to turn brown, although you may harvest “baby” potatoes throughout the growing season. Always remember, green potatoes are poisonous.