

What to do now in July.

- 1) As you use your crops clear the ground ready for your last sowings. You can still sow appropriate varieties of carrot, lettuce, spring cabbage, Kohl rabi, turnips, and oriental leaves. If you want a late crop of Peas sow a first early type as they mature faster.
- 2) Watering and weeding are the big priority this month. Don't let your crops suffer any checks due to drought or weeds.
- 3) Keep up with your production. Don't let courgettes, Peas, and Beans stay on the plant too long as they discourage further production if left to mature. Keep cutting and picking.
- 4) Clear your first early new potatoes. Use them as they do not store well. Keep second earlies and maincrops well watered and earthed up. If the month is very wet watch out for signs of Blight, (blackened foliage which rapidly dies off). Spraying with Bordeaux mixture is a preventative measure. If you do get blight then remove the foliage and take away: don't put it on your compost heap. The tubers may be okay – check and if so use immediately as they will not keep.
- 5) Sow some Spring cabbage plants ready for planting out later in the year for over wintering.
- 6) Once your Strawberries have finished fruiting remove any straw and cut them down to the ground. Clear up around them and sprinkle a high potash fertilizer around them, (eg, Tomato feed). Water it in well. Healthy new growth will soon develop.
- 7) Plant out your winter Brassicas.