

## **Jobs for the Month – May**

- Start removing side-shoots from indoor tomatoes
- Place straw beneath strawberry plants to keep the fruit clean
- Complete mulching beneath fruit trees; keep the area just around the trunk clear to avoid rotting
- Harvest asparagus spears from established plants
- Sow cauliflowers, sprouting broccoli and leeks outside in seed beds
- Earth-up potatoes
- Stake peas and prepare supports for runner beans
- Plant out canna lilies and dahlias after the last frosts
- Complete the planting of summer-flowering bulbs
- Sow biennials such as wallflowers for transplanting in the autumn
- Put supports in place for tall perennials such as lupins, delphiniums and monkshood
- Deadhead and divide crowded clumps of spring-flowering bulbs
- Re-pot house plants and increase watering rates gradually
- Trim winter-flowering heathers as the flowers fade
- Divide and transplant bamboos
- Prune spring-flowering shrubs such as forsythia, ribes and spiraea after flowering
- Hang pheromone traps in apple trees to reduce codling moth numbers
- Check for lily beetle on fritillarias and lilies
- Check roses for blackspot, aphids and leaf-rolling sawfly, taking measures where appropriate.