



Gardening Tips for August 2026

1. CLIVIA FLOWERING.

Last chance to give a potash/flowering fertiliser boost to clivia to improve their blooms – some of which are already appearing. (P.S. - Convention says plants need to be about 6-7 years old and have about 10-12 leaves usually before they'll flower at all). (*Tropical Gardening. Issue 32*)

2. BOUGAINVILLEA CUTTINGS.

Just time to take cuttings as these plants burst into spring growth. Take hardwood cuttings, remove leaves and plant in sand/light potting mix and place in a shady spot. (*Tropical Gardening. Issue 32*)

3. HIBISCUS

Mid August is a good time to prune back your hibiscus. This can be a 'hard prune' i.e. between one third and two thirds of the shrub. Fertilise afterwards to stimulate new growth. Keep soil moist but never wet – they hate wet feet. (www.lovelawns.com.au)

4. POTTING MIX

Claire Bickle points out that most potting mixes do have a slow release fertiliser in them but that runs out at the 12 week mark at most. Then add organic types (like Rooster Booster, Fish Emulsion, etc.) rather than chemical types as they can build up in pots and 'poison' the mix over time. (www.sustainablebrisbane)

5. BINDII

Bindii (*Soliva pterosperma*) is a specialist plant, which thrives in compacted soil. Loosen the soil and the grass will outcompete Bindii. (*Burkes Backyard.*)