



Gardening Tips for September 2026

1. **SLOW-RELEASE FERTILISERS LAST?**
2-12 months depending on type/conditions.
Consult the pack – those with polymer (i.e. plastic) coatings last longer but ! (www.gardenerbible.com)
2. **DIVIDING HIPPEASTRUMS**
Last newsletter discussed Papilio hippeastrums.
DO NOT be tempted to subdivide when flowers die. Wait till autumn and all leaves are gone. Plant dormant then so will cope. (www.trendsmask.com)
3. **WATERING CACTUS**
In SE Qld water every 10-14 days in spring and summer. Water only when soil is dry. That is what happens in nature. (www.zonedgarden.com)
4. **STRIKING AZALEAS**
With flowering done you can take semi-hardwood stem cuttings. Put into a rich organic potting mix lightened with peat and perlite. Cut stem just beneath a leaf node, remove lower third of leaves with 3-4 health leaves at top. Keep moist in indirect light. Roots take about 2 months.
(www.aussiegreenthumb.com)
5. **WATER LILIES.**
Should be repotted around now into new sandy soil. They are heavy feeders so repot with enough slow release fertiliser to last the whole season. Clean roots then use a sharp knife to subdivide. Line new pot with newspaper to prevent soil escaping. Make sure growing tip is above soil level.
(www.walliscreekwatergarden.com.au)