

Cynthia Brian's Mid-month Gardening Guide for February

PICK UP the fallen blooms of camellias to prevent the fungus *Camellia blossom rot* which causes blooms to turn brown from the center out. Do not compost spent blossoms. Put the dead blooms in the trash bin.

USE Chinese flowering quince as a spiny hedge or barrier.

DON'T mow or walk on your lawn after a rain when the soil is too moist or you will damage the grass and cause rivets in the soil.

PLANT seedlings of celosia next month for a late spring show.

FINAL time to heavy prune your roses. Dip canes in a rooting solution and plant in rich soil in small containers to give as summer hostess gifts.

GROW your own Brassicas and leafy greens by sowing seeds in succession.

MAKE homemade mustard from the seeds of wild mustard by grinding them and adding salt, spices and vinegar.

PRUNE and shape pelargoniums and geraniums for fuller flowering.

WASH leaves of indoor plants that are dusty. Re-pot if necessary.

FEED the birds as winter is challenging for them to find essential food sources.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



Yellow and red celosia creates a colorful border.



Stalks of flowering quince may be cut for indoor décor.



Put canes of pruned roses in pots to give to friends.