



What to plant in February

For the vegie garden





Nothing

February is the
time of year to
clean out the
garden



What to do in the garden in February

- Get a woofers
- Clean out all vegetation
- Re shape and tidy beds
- Fertilise
- Mulch

Clean up the garden

Chop down weeds through a mulcher to decompose quickly for mulch



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Make a weed tea with the weeds



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Fertilise

Add manure to the garden beds



Deep litter from chickens is fine





Whoa! Hold it there.

Raw manure direct on the garden beds could be an issue here

- Manure less than 6 months old is classed as raw.
- Raw manure will add too much nitrogen to the plants
- Too much nitrogen causes a build up of nitrates
- Too many nitrates turn into nitrites as we digest the fresh veg

So what can we do about this?

- Decompose manure before adding to the gardens either by composting or through a worm farm.
- Or we can use bokashi!



Bokashi

Bokashi is a powerful ferment that can break down fresh manure in a couple of weeks.

Sprinkle over the fresh manure on the garden beds.

Water in well.

Cover with a layer of mulch.

All the manure will have disappeared from sight in a couple of weeks at this time of the year.


Ready to plant the seedlings.



Bokashi recipe

- 1 kg rice or wheat bran
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 lb of medium grain white rice
- several cups of water

Soak the rice in water for a few minutes, swish it around with the hand and drain the rice water into another bowl. Add the sugar or a little molasses to the rice water to assist fermentation. Leave to ferment for a week. It should become active before the next step.

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- Mix some of the rice water into the rice bran and add about 100g of your own soil and mix well until just moist. The mixture should be just wet enough to stick together when squeezed.
 - Leave in a plastic bag excluding all air, seal tightly and leave for seven to ten days in a dark place.
 - Spread onto a tray and allow to dry slowly in the shade.
 - The bokashi can be stored in a plastic bag or container but do allow the mixture to breathe.
 - Use approximately one teaspoon to a good handful of vegie scraps.
- (Look on the internet for more recipes, search for 'bokashi)



But I lied!

Plant tropical vegetables such as Taro, Cocoyam, Cassava, Sweet potatoes, Aibika, Brazillian Spinach, Lebanese Cress, in fact all perennials can still be planted in February and into early March but be quick!

And you can also seed out Onions,
Broad Beans and Brusselsprouts in
February so they can mature in time.





Happy gardening!

