

JOBS FOR AUGUST

Don't get caught out by unseasonably hot temperatures we often receive in mid July?

As we all know, the ideal time to repot deciduous trees is at budswell, just prior to the leaves opening. My elms don't quite know if it is winter or spring with many of them still clinging on to last years' growth and just as many already bursting into Spring growth.

With the number of trees that I have, I was lucky that I repotted all of my Elms early, but I'm sure that if members follow the calendar rather than the climate, it is easy to get caught out.

From mid August to mid September is an ideal time to repot Privet, Olive, Pyracantha, Cotoneaster, Buxus, Camelia and most Aussie Natives prior to the appearance of their new growth and all conifers can be repotted from late August to early Summer.

Avoid repotting wet trees as you increase the chances of fungal attack. Any bamboo or blood grass (accents plants etc.) should be cut back to ground level and placed in a sunny position and fertilized to ensure a new fresh look.

By late August you can probably prune your early shooting deciduous trees to develop multiple branches rather than elongated growth, unless, however, you are trying to thicken a branch or trunk.

Some trees that have been placed in full sun over winter may need to be relocated back into a sheltered position and it is most important to reassess your watering regime after the more relaxed schedule throughout winter.