



Jim Buttress's tips for November

- 1. Plant tulips this month. Plant to two or three times the bulb's depth. Protect with wire mesh covering if squirrels visit your garden.*
- 2. Start winter pruning apple and pear trees.*
- 3. Fruited canes of blackberries, Tayberries and loganberries should be pruned to ground level.*
- 4. Plant bare-root roses as they become available this month. Unpack mail order plants promptly and soak before planting if the roots are dry.*
- 5. Japanese maples require little pruning, but if it is needed, it should be done now. Prune to a well-placed side branch without leaving a stub, as this can result in die back.*
- 6. Prune grapevines after leaf fall, but before the end of December, to avoid bleeding of sap.*
- 7. Reduce watering and feeding houseplants.*
- 8. Plant new rhubarb crowns. Space them 36ins apart. Do not harvest for the first two years.*
- 9. Take hard wood cuttings from soft fruit bushes, including gooseberries, black, red and white currants. Fruit trees such as figs and mulberries can also be propagated in this way.*
- 10. Check pansies and violas for downy mildew and leaf spots. Destroy infected material.*