

Gardening AUSTRALIA



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TOP WINTER GARDENING TIPS

WATERWISE GARDENING

how to fix those dry soils

CROP ROTATION

follow our easy step-by-step guide for success

WIN
AN ALOE
NEW RELEASE
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IT'S TIME TO
plant, prune
and fertilise
your garden!

BACKYARD HARVEST
sustainability in
a city garden

THE GREEN ISSUE

IDEAS FOR EVERY GARDEN

news magazines



TROPICAL COLOUR

10 plants to brighten up winter



TINO CARNEVALE

grow your own tasty pine nuts



BULBS FOR SHADE

rare and beautiful choices



WIN
AN ALOE
ENTER
NOW!

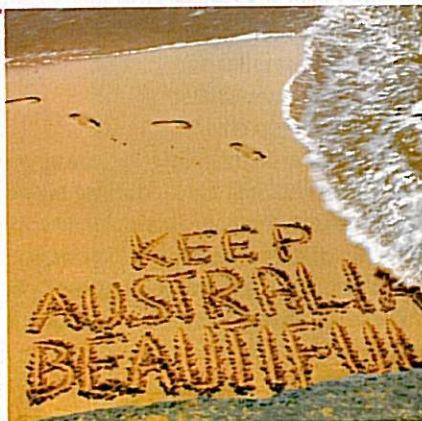
Erik the Red

If you're after a plant to brighten your winter garden, this new aloe is one to look out for. 'Erik the Red' has long red torch-like flowers through winter, which are offset by its architectural sword-shaped leaves. Like many aloes it has spines, but these are surprisingly soft. It grows to 2m tall and forms a single tall stem from an early age making it a fantastic feature plant, either in a pot or in the ground. Available now in nurseries in Vic, NSW and Qld. For more information, see aloe-aloe.com.au

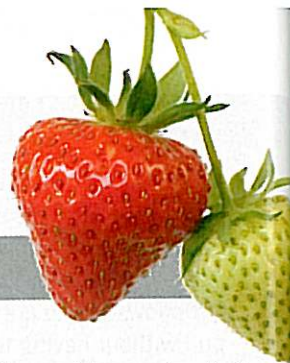
We have 30 'Erik the Red' aloes to give away. To enter, write 25 words or less about your favourite winter-flowering plant. Send your entry, with name, address and telephone number on the back of an envelope, by August 31 to Gardening Australia/Erik, Locked Bag 5030, Alexandria, NSW 2015.

LITTER LESS WHEN OUT

Recycling rubbish is easy enough at home. However, drink and takeaway containers pose more of a challenge when we're out, and often needlessly wind up in landfill. This year's Keep Australia Beautiful Week (August 23–29) features the Out and About campaign, which aims to encourage us to use more recycling bins in public places. Visit www.kab.org.au



news



Space jam

Astronauts can look forward to growing their own strawberries during long space flights. NASA-funded research has found a cultivar, Seascape, which fruits even with short spells of simulated daylight. Scientists from Purdue University in the US say that under these conditions, they produce fewer but larger berries, which means less work for astronauts who would have to hand-pollinate and harvest them. Astronauts might also grow lettuce, radish and tomato in a unit called a 'salad machine', to supplement their space meals.

Anna Evangelis science journalist

Leafy living in the arts precinct

A new apartment block in Melbourne's Southbank, due for completion later this year, is taking the concept of going green to heart. Triptych features creations by Jamie Durie and his team at Patio, and includes a vertical garden on the building's facade made up of dianella, euphorbia, clivia and other plants. Atriums come alive with 9m vine screens grown from rainforest creepers, while a rooftop garden features small shrubs, mature trees and other plant varieties.

Flying-foxes on the move

Minister for Environment Protection, Peter Garrett, has approved a controversial plan to relocate the flying-foxes that have damaged trees and plants in the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney. Meanwhile, one of the victims has become immortal. Timber from a Kauri pine (*Agathis moorei*) killed by roosting bats was divided among artists and woodworkers. See their creations for the Kauri Project on August 21–29. Visit www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/friends

Science enthusiasts unite

National Science Week (August 14–22) is offering a variety of events around the country. Plants = Life: Exploring Biodiversity at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney takes visitors on tours, with displays and demonstrations. In Tasmania, a Devonport City Council outreach program aims to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity. Similar projects will be taking place around regional Victoria. Visit www.scienceweek.gov.au 