

# Gardening by the Moon

DECEMBER 2025



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER CORNER

### *Poinsettia*



Poinsettias are commonly associated with the holiday season, particularly in Christmas decorations. They are known for their festive red and green foliage, although they come in various colors, including white, pink, and marble. Native to Mexico, these plants were named after Joel Poinsett, an American diplomat and botanist who introduced them to the United States in the early 1800s after discovering them there.

Poinsettias thrive in warm environments and require careful watering, as they are sensitive to overwatering. They're often used in arrangements and as potted plants during the festive season, symbolizing goodwill and celebration.

## BENEFITS OF SOIL TESTING

Soil testing can help gardeners and homeowners improve their turf, beds, and trees, making their plants healthier and more vibrant. Just like humans, soil can lack essential nutrients and have an imbalanced pH. You can test your soil anytime, but it's best to do so twice a year before planting — we suggest sending samples in January and August. Once you get the results, you can decide on the appropriate treatment and fertilization. Below, you'll find instructions on how to collect a soil sample in a gallon-size Ziploc bag. After collecting your sample, we recommend using ServiTech Lab for analysis — <https://home.servitech.com/home>



Image from <https://www.pennington.com/all-products/grass-seed/resources/how-to-take-an-accurate-soil-sample>



## Winter Tips

Check out our social media @drmoonconsulting for more

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|----|---|----|---|
| 01 | Fresh Christmas trees should be watered daily with warm water | 05 | Monitor the forecast for freezing temps. Protect the 4 P's: people, pets, pipes, and plants |
| 02 | Remove dead plant material & clean up fallen leaves           | 06 | Turn OFF your irrigation  |
| 03 | Plant winter color  | 07 | Apply Neem Oil  |
| 04 | Add mulch to tree rings and beds                              | 08 | Lower your mowing height slowly down to 1.5- 2" during the winter                           |



## HOMEOWNER SERVICES

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