



While early spring is a great time to plant many things, you should be wary of any late freezes that may come. **The last frost date for Sonora is May 10th.** While it is rare to get a freeze that late, it is still completely possibly up until that point. Your summer garden is one of those things that could be completely wiped out by a late freeze. Unless you have a greenhouse, we recommend waiting until the end of April to plant your summer garden.

Don't forget that you can buy veggie starts that have been growing in a greenhouse for months. You should also keep an eye on the forecast before bringing out any plants that are not so cold hardy. Meyer Lemons and other citrus that were brought in for the winter can usually make it through a 32-degree freeze, but lower temperatures could really harm them. Finally, if you have a favorite tree in your yard that has already leafed out and/or flowered, you may want to protect it with a sheet or other material during a late frost. While the freeze won't kill your tree, it can zing the leaves/flowers and make the plant less vigorous overall in the growing seasons to come.



We live in an area where late freezes occur almost every year. By April many plants have already leafed out and even bloomed. If we get a late frost (32 degrees or below), you can expect to see a dramatic change in your plants that have put out this new growth. Leaves and flowers that are subject to the freeze will droop and wither away, and the plant is not

likely to be as full and beautiful that year. If you have a favorite plant or tree that has already leafed out, you can try to protect it during a predicted freeze period by covering it up with a sheet or blanket or some other material. You will need to secure it well so that wind doesn't blow it away. This will help protect the leaves from getting burned too badly and give your plant a better start to the growing season. You can't do this for all of your plants, obviously, but you can try to save a few favorites. Trees that have not leafed out yet do not need to be protected and potted plants can be moved under a porch or indoors to prevent damage.