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Black Aphids

Black aphids may appear on some tomato plants in Minnesota. University entomologists say don't do anything about the aphids unless they are causing visible leaf curling. Then use an all-purpose malathion dust.

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Flower Gardening

(0:15)

University Extension Horticulturist Jane McKinnon says pick the heads off your annual flowers to keep them blooming. Cut the dead flower spikes on perennials, but don't cut the leaves off the plant. Watch for plant problems.

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Clipping Back Petunias

(0:30)

Petunias should be clipped back if they begin to spread with long stringy runners. One good pruning early in August, followed by an application of liquid fertilizer will bring new growth and better blooming. Make your own liquid fertilizer by putting a half-cup of 10-10-10 or 12-12-12 in a gallon of water. Stir it and let it stand over night. Use a cup to a plant and apply it to moist soil at a cool time of the day. Water after application as well. Never use fertilizers or any garden chemicals when the temperature is over 80.

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yard/garden radio briefs

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