

# Spring Science News from Mrs. Iott

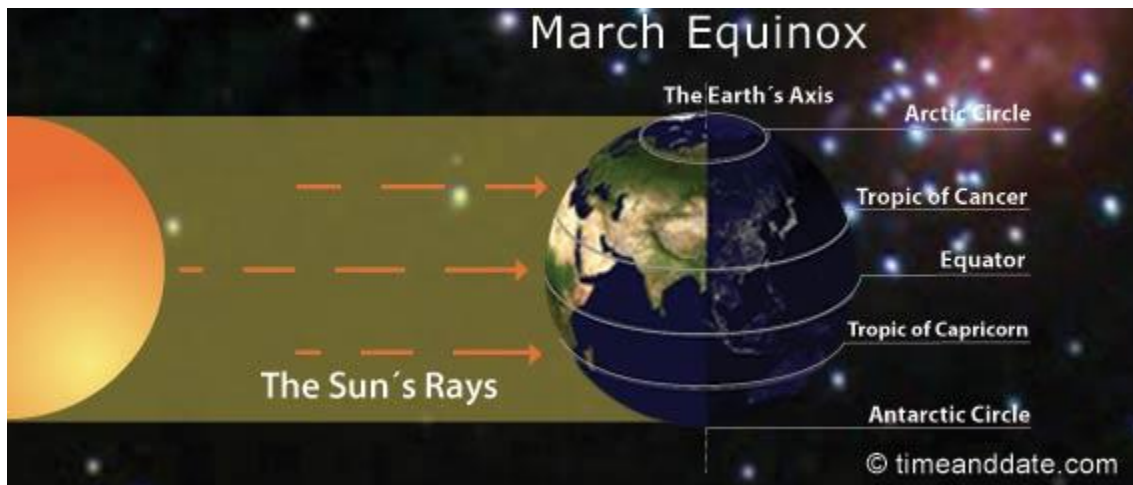
## Winter Ends and Spring Begins!

(Come on GREEN STUFF!)

**March Equinox: March 20, 2014, 16:57 UTC**

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There are two equinoxes every year - in March and [September](#) - when the sun shines directly on the equator and the length of day and night is [nearly equal](#). Seasons are opposite on either side of the equator, so the equinox in March is also known as the "[spring equinox](#)" in the northern hemisphere. However, in the southern hemisphere, it's known as the "[autumnal \(fall\) equinox](#)".



**What happens at the solstice?**

Source: <http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/march-equinox.html>

The North Pole is tilted furthest away from the sun at this solstice. (Illustration not to scale)

The December solstice occurs when the sun reaches its most southerly declination of - 23.5 degrees. In other words, it is when the North Pole is tilted 23.5 degrees away from the sun. Depending on the [Gregorian calendar](#), the December solstice occurs annually on a day between December 20 and December 23. On this date, all places above a latitude of 66.5 degrees north (Arctic Polar Circle) are now in darkness, while locations below a latitude of 66.5 degrees south (Antarctic Polar Circle) receive 24 hours of daylight.

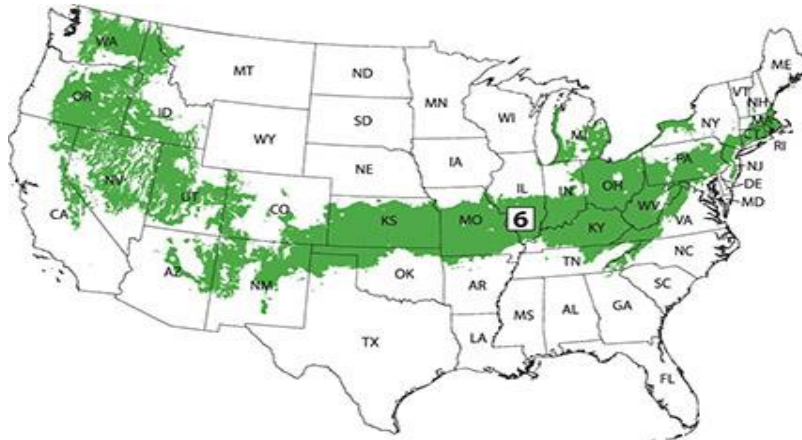
Source: <http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/december-solstice.html>

***Enjoy a Happy and Safe Spring!***

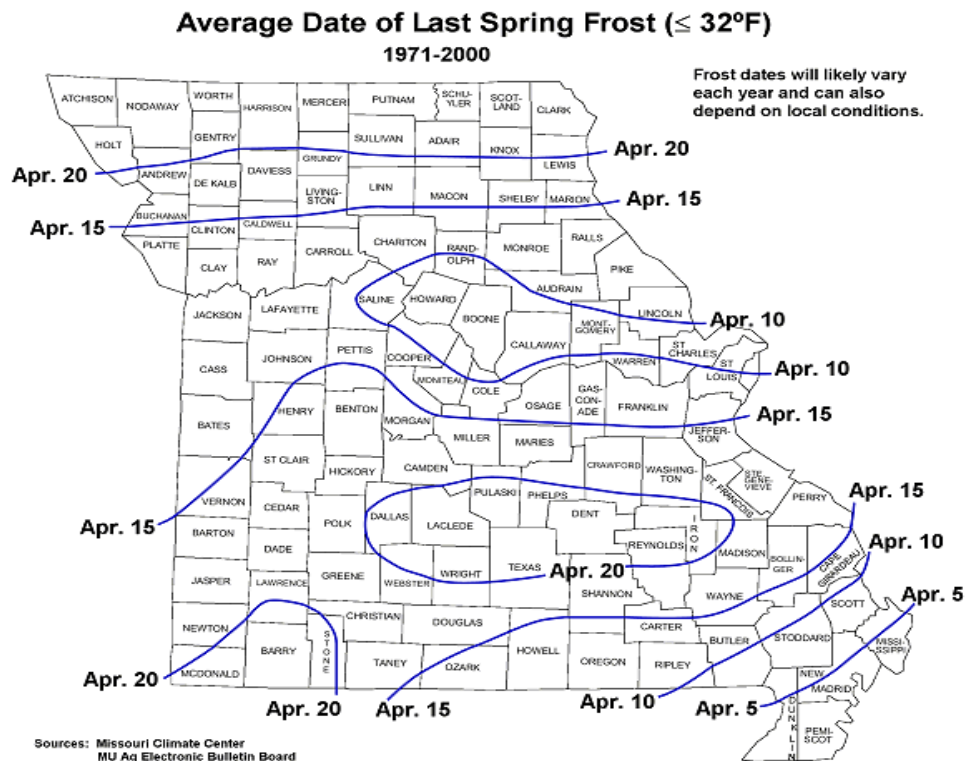
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## It's Time to Think About Planting!

Success in the garden becomes easy when you select plants guaranteed to thrive in **Chilhowee, MO**. So choose **Zone 6** annuals, perennials, vegetables, bulbs, shrubs and trees. Read the back of seed packets for more information.



Source: <http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/december-solstice.html>



Source: <http://climate.missouri.edu/news/arc/apr2010.php>

*Enjoy a Happy and Safe Spring!*