



10 TIPS FOR CITRUS SUCCESS

- 1:Location: Citrus are great container plants, but also do well in a sunny, wind free southern exposure. Take advantage of a warm mirco-climate.
- 2:Fertilize: Citrus are heavy feeders and need regular feeding throughout the year. Fertilize with Citrus food every 8 weeks from February through October. Then feed with Ultra Bloom fertilizer November, December and January. The extra potash in the Ultra Bloom Fertilizer helps provide cold tolerance and disease resistance, it also helps to sweeten fruits as they are ripening and provide for a heavier round of blooms for the next , season. Watch for interveinal chlorosis, which is yellowing between the veins of the leaf. This is an indicator of an Iron deficiency and can be corrected with Iron supplements.
- 3:Watering: Consistent, deep watering in well-drained soil is the key to keep foliage and fruit developing properly. When plants are stressed, wilted and then pumped full of fertilizer and water it leads to fruit splitting. The thirsty plants gulp up the goodness quickly and the fruit rinds cannot accommodate the stretch. Staying consistent is the key to a good fruit crop.
- 4:Pruning: It's very important to keep all sucker growth pruned off. The graft union on a Citrus tree is typically 10-15" above the ground and can be very hard to discern. It doesn't show up as easily as a grafted stone fruit. It looks like a diagonal seam where the texture or color of the bark will have a slight change.
- 5:Mulching: A thick layer of mulch on the root-zone will help to conserve moisture in our hot, dry summers. In addition to holding moisture, the mulch will also insulate the roots in the winter.
- 6:Insects: Control Leafminers with traps and spray when they are indicated. You can beat Aphids with Ladybugs and Lacewing beneficial insects. Citrus scale can be controlled with Neem Oil.
- 7:Spraying: Use Cloud Cover spray to help limit frost burn in the cold winter months. Antitranspirant sprays lock moisture in the foliage, preventing dry frosts from stealing moisture from delicate tissue.
- 8:Insulate: Citrus benefit from having their core warm just as we do. Wrap trunks with grey pipe insulation to add an extra layer of warmth.
- 9:Decorate: Use Christmas lights in the winter to add warmth at night. LED's won't work, so pull out your old lights and put them on a timer for convenience.
- 10:Wrap up: Wrap your trees in Frost Cloth for maximum protection. Citrus trees are frost sensitive, even more so when they are young. Frost cloth can be put on the tree at the beginning of winter and left on. No need to take it on and off everyday.