

Choose From 4 Different Trees:

STONE FRUIT TREE:

grows assorted combinations of
2 Peaches, 2 Apricots, 2 Nectarines,
2 Plums and Peachcots

CITRUS TREE:

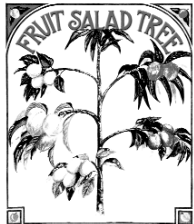
grows assorted combinations of
2 Oranges, Mandarin, Lemon, Lime,
Grapefruit, Tangelo, Pomelo

APPLE TREE:

grows different Apples only

NASHI TREE:

grows different Nashis only



SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS
CHAMPION of
CHAMPIONS
2002 WINNER
2003 FINALIST

Fruit Salad Tree Co.

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Fruit Salad Trees

Up to
8 Different Fruits on

One Tree
IN GARDENS or IN POTS

Care Instructions

The Fruit Salad tree is a very practical and unique tree for the small backyard because it's a multi-grafted tree that produces a variety of different fruits, all on the one tree! This eliminates the "glut" that is familiar with a single variety tree. Each graft grows independently from the others and therefore all the different fruits retain their own characteristics eg. flavour, appearance, ripening time.

WARM CLIMATES or
COLD CLIMATES

2 SPECIAL CARE REQUIREMENTS

Point 1 Keep Tree Balanced !

Establish a well 'balanced' tree by pruning back the more vigorous growing grafts, any time and regularly during the growing season. Thin out branching of each graft, if needed, to equalize growth *vigour!* Otherwise the more vigorous growers will become bigger and bigger, and dominate, at the expense of the slower growers. This should be done once a month and is especially important while the tree is young and developing! Continue to maintain a 'balance' of growth for each graft, until mature height is reached.

Hint: Keep each graft confined to grow in its own area of the tree, this will assist in recognizing the faster and slower growers.

Point 2 Remove Rootstock Growth!

Any new shoots emerging from the main central stem of the tree or from ground level, must be removed. This is growth of the rootstock tree. It's purpose is to nourish the attached grafts.

Hint: Identify the different grafts growing from the main central stem (e.g. put a dab of paint), these are the anchor points of each graft. Check and remove all other growth from the central stem (rootstock).

Citrus rootstock has long thorns and a small 3 pronged leaf, always remove this growth.

MATURE HEIGHT FOR TREES: (in ground)

Citrus is dwarfing, height (h) about 2 metres, width (w) 2 metres.

Stone Fruits (h) about 3 metres, (w) about 2.5 metres.

Apples (h) 2 metres, (w) 2 metres

Nashis can reach (h) 3-4 metres, (w) 2-2.5 metres.

All trees can be grown by espalier method (see heading), to save space, or in "stand alone" position.

When growing in a POT, size of tree will be determined by size of the pot. E.g. half wine barrel pot, tree would reach about half 'in ground' size. See "large pot growing".

PLANTING OUT:

Planting can be done anytime. Soak tree in a bucket overnight prior to planting out. Remove from pot by cutting bag with a knife. Spread out roots a little. Dig a little wider than pot, to depth of 2/3 of pot, leaving 1/3 above ground. This will ensure good drainage. Make sure lower branch union is well above soil. Stake the tree to secure.

If soil is heavy clay then add a few handfuls of gypsum on top of ground and a little into the hole. If sandy soil, add organic matter. Mound up with good top soil, put animal manure on top (older is better) OR if available, compost. Other options are Dynamic Lifter (equivalent) OR blood and bone. Alternatively use the slow release fertiliser Osmocote (containing trace elements) and mix in with soil.

Water in well with each layer of soil mixture, leaving no air pockets and firm down. Add mulch on top to keep moist. Water next day, then twice weekly for 3 weeks / as required.



PTO for further instructions.

WATERING:

Keep plant moist at all times, watering more often during the hotter months. A good layer of mulch promotes a more consistent moisture level. Weekly deep watering is best, i.e. leave hose on trickle overnight. This promotes a deeper root development for the tree, rather than surface watering. Reduce watering habits for dormant trees during winter months.

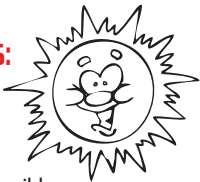
FERTILISING:

Fertilize twice a year! APPLY late winter and late summer. Cow or animal manure (older is better) and compost are excellent fertilizers. Otherwise suggestions would be: a slow release fertilizer (Osmocote with added trace elements) mix into the soil, Blood and Bone types, Dynamic Lifter/equivalent. No more than one or two of these fertilisers to each application. From time to time can add kitchen scraps under mulch to attract earthworms.

When using fertilizers, keep from direct contact with trunk of tree. Top up mulch when required.

SUN REQUIREMENTS:

Best to place in position with full day sun or a minimum of half day, sheltered from wind if possible.

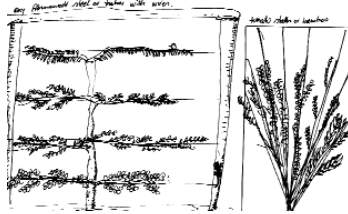


FIRST FRUITS:

First fruits will appear in approximately 6 – 18 months. It's best to remove most of these fruits when the size of a tiny pea and allow the framework (branches) of all the grafts to develop first. This is especially important whilst the tree is young. As the tree grows, thin out the amount of fruit to set, always promoting branch growth as well. Framework needs to be ahead of fruit production. More fruit may be allowed to set on any faster growing grafts however, always reduce fruits on the slower growers.

Growing - Espalier Method

This method saves space and is especially helpful for apples and nashi trees as it provides extra support for heavy cropping. Attach the branching sideways along wires or framework. Secure branches with expandable ties.



FRUIT FLY BAITING:

No spraying required for the tree or fruit. Mix into 1 Litre of water, 20ml Protein Hydrolysate and 10ml Maldison. Apply 60ml of the solution by splashing onto trunk of tree. Begin to apply approx 1 month before fruit due to ripen (when large marble size and still rock hard). Apply weekly and reapply after rain. To provide

added protection, put a small amount of the solution into a container, hang on the tree or nearby, and fix so that fruit fly has access to the liquid but it's protected from rain. *Protein Hydrolysate can be purchased from Bugs for Bugs (07) 4165 4663, if not available locally.

LARGE POT GROWING:

Planting can be done any time of the year. Late in the day when weather cooler is best. Soak tree in a bucket overnight prior to planting out. Remove from pot by cutting bag with a knife. Knock off about half the old soil and tease out roots a little. Start with a pot a little wider than original size and progressively pot up each year so that in five years time, tree will reach half wine barrel size. Tree can also be planted into a very large pot to start, but remember to change the soil at least every two years and fertilise more often.

Use a good potting mix and enrich by adding 1 Tbsp of Osmocote (slow release fertilizer) that includes trace elements. Mix altogether and wash in well. Add mulch on top. Fertilise from top at least twice a year - suggestions see 'Fertilising'. Water crystals can also be added and keep a tray under the pot.

When potting up to next size, place pot on its side and remove. Knock off half the used soil, tease out roots a little and replant as above into the larger pot. Increase in pot size each year.

To maintain same pot size, trim off any excess roots, i.e. those wrapping tightly around the outside of the root system. Then immediately cut back the branching of the tree, to compensate for loss of those roots. Also knock off half the used soil, tease out remaining roots and repot back into the same pot with fresh soil and nutrients. Continue this maintenance in same pot i.e. 'bonsai'. After repeated same size repotting, more inner roots will also need to be removed.

The size of the tree will be determined by the size of the pot. See "Height for Trees". Tree will produce normal size fruits - even in a pot!



SHAPING OF THE FRUIT TREE:

All growth needs to be encouraged in direction away from the centre of the tree. Sunlight needs to be filtering to all branches and fruits, so keep centre of tree open. Pinch out any inward growing branches and those growing in the wrong direction, this will not harm the tree but redirects energy to the outward growing branches. When branching is growing too long, cut to 'bush up'. Cut above an outward pointing bud or leaf. If too much branching, thin out to make a strong framework.



ANNUAL WINTER PRUNING

Stone Fruits: Apart from the continual pruning for shape and balance, apply annual pruning, in early winter. Prune 1/3 (young tree) to 1/2 (mature tree) of the current year's growth, cut above an outward bud. The colour of the bark will indicate the amount of growth for the last season.

For Stone Fruit Trees only: It is most important to spray the tree for prevention of the disease 'Leaf Curl'

1. At Leaf Fall i.e. autumn (by early May - remove leaves if not yet fallen), spray thoroughly with Lime Sulphur, twice, a week apart. (Hand sprayer)
2. Use a Copper spray, adding a few drops of dishwashing liquid, at bud swell (before bud burst), when tree is beginning to 'wake up' from dormancy. Can be as early as June! Do this twice, a week apart (Hand sprayer).

Citrus: After fruiting, cut back just a little and thin out branching for sunlight penetration. Heavy pruning is not required.