

Contact details

Calamondins are ornamental plants that are ideal in containers. Their fruit is edible.

For more information, visit any of our Info centres or email us at info@gardenshop.co.za

For details and further information, visit GardenShop's friendly Information Centre at any of our branches or call our Contact Centre on **0861 G-A-R-D-E-N (427336)**. Alternatively, e-mail us at info@gardenshop.co.za or log on to gardenshop.co.za.

GardenShop Broadacres

Broadacres Lifestyle Centre
Cnr Cedar & Valley Roads, Broadacres
Tel: 011 465 4216 Fax: 011 467 1309
info.bds@gardenshop.co.za
Co-ordinates 26° 00' 02" S / 27° 58' 56" E

GardenShop Bryanston

Cnr Main Road & Halifax Street, Bryanston
Tel: 011 463 5773 Fax: 011 463 5775
info.btn@gardenshop.co.za
Co-ordinates 26° 04' 31" S / 28° 00' 47" E

GardenShop Edenvale

Stoneridge Shopping Centre
Cnr Modderfontein & Hereford Roads, Edenvale
Tel: 011 524 0257 Fax: 011 524 0617
info.edv@gardenshop.co.za
Co-ordinates 26° 06' 56.88" S / 28° 08' 42.73" E

GardenShop FloraFarm

Cnr North Rand & Trichardts Roads, Boksburg
Tel: 011 894 2377/8 Fax: 011 918 5852
info.ff@gardenshop.co.za
Co-ordinates 26° 10' 42.95" S / 28° 15' 12.04" E

GardenShop Menlo Park

Greenlyn Village Centre
Cnr Mackenzie & 13th Streets, Menlo Park
Tel: 012 460 5137 Fax: 012 460 4725
info.mlo@gardenshop.co.za
Co-ordinates 25° 46' 09" S / 28° 15' 29" E

GardenShop Parktown North

Cnr Jan Smuts Avenue & Chester Road, Parktown North
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Co-ordinates 26° 08' 55" S / 28° 08' 03" E



Citrus

GardenShop's guide to the planting and care of Citrus

Introduction to Citrus

The citrus family contains many well-loved fruits, including Lemons, Oranges, Limes, Grapefruit, Naartjies and ornamental Oranges. They fruit from mid summer into the winter. Citrus is easy to grow and suffers relatively few problems. Another advantage is the fruit hangs well so it can be left on the tree until the fruit can be used. Citrus is generally self-fertile except for Satsuma Naartjies and Mandarins. Plant any one of the Orange cultivars to allow for pollination.

Positioning

Citrus prefer full sun and the soil should be well drained. Frost can be damaging to trees so keep them in a protected area. Lemons are the only citrus that will tolerate frost. If you are planting more than 1 tree, allow for 5m between each tree.

Planting

Citrus hate to be planted in a heavy soil. When planting, dig a hole approximately 75cm x 75cm x 75cm. Add a bag of compost, a good scooped handful of Superphosphate and 2:3:2 fertiliser to the hole. Mix in some of the excavated soil. Firm the soil down. Leaving the plant in its bag, lower it into the hole to make sure that it will be positioned correctly. Neither too deep nor too shallowly. Once the levels are correct. Remove the bag and add the remaining topsoil to the hole. Firm down well and water deeply.

Watering

Citrus requires regular, deep soakings. Water well once a week. In July start watering deeply as this will increase the number of flowers. The more flowers that are set, the more fruit you are likely to get. Continue watering through out the summer. If rainfall is heavy, then it is not necessary to water. Watering can be reduced from April.

Feeding

The most important feeding should take place in July. Mulch the area with compost or ready-made mulch. Water the area well. Sprinkle the area with fertiliser but try to keep it from touching the stem. Water the area again. Fertilise in the following months. July, December and March. In the first year feed with 150g LAN. The following season trees should be give 150g 2:3:2 fertiliser per feed. Increase by 2.5kg per feeding per year (i.e. 7.5kg annually.) Each tree should be given 75g of Magnesium sulphate (Epson salts) three times per year.

Pruning

Pruning should be done in the early stages to obtain a good shape and strong framework, thereafter limit the pruning to removing any dead or damaged wood. Any pruning that is to be done should be carried out in July. All pruning sites should be sealed with a product like Tree seal or Steriseal.

Recommended varieties

Lemons:

Eureka - Thin skinned and juicy - fruits almost all year round.

Meyer - Best suited for very cold areas.

Cape Rough Skin - Thick bumpy skin.

Oranges:

Valencia - Very juicy fruit.

Lane Late - Thin skin and very juicy.

Palmer - Thin skinned and juicy.

Seville - Thick skinned and juicy.

Limes:

Tahiti - Large light yellow fruit, excellent for lime juice

West Indian Lime - Main source of commercial lime juice. Not easily available.

Grapefruit:

Ruby Red - Yellow-orange skinned fruit, pink to red flesh.

Star Ruby - Seedless, thin skinned, very juicy sweetish fruit with pink flesh.

Naartjies:

Clementine - Thin orange skin. Seedless, good as a table fruit.

Empress - Light yellow fruit, very juicy.

Satsuma - Large orange fruit, no pips.