



# Citrus and Fruit for Fort Bend County

## APPLES

**'ANNA'** – Remarkable fruit for mild-winter climates. Heavy crops of sweet, crisp, flavorful apples. Fresh/cooked. Keeps 2 months in refrigerator. 200 chill hours. Self-fruitful or pollinated by Dorsett Golden.

**'DORSETT GOLDEN'** - Outstanding sweet apple for warm winter areas. Firm, very flavorful, sweet like Golden Delicious. Good early season sweet apple. Self-fruitful. Very low chill of 100 hours.

**'3-In-1'** - THREE low chill varieties on one tree – an innovation that provides higher production with just one tree! A great choice for gardens with limited space. Each tree will have 3 different selections from the following varieties -Anna, Dorsett Golden, Fuji or Gordon. All of these are great tasting, low chill selections recommended for this area. With three varieties grafted onto one tree, it is a self-fruitful selection with higher production than single variety apple trees. 200-500 chill hours.

**'3 TIERED ESPALIERED DORSETT GOLDEN APPLE'** – Wow, Apples on a trellis! A perfect choice for a garden with limited space – all you need is a wall or some other vertical surface. Dorsett Golden is great for this area, outstanding sweet apple for warm winter areas. Firm, very flavorful, sweet like Golden Delicious. Good early season sweet apple. Self-fruitful. Very low chill of 100 hours.

## APRICOTS

**'GOLD KIST'** - Excellent backyard apricot for warm winter climates. Juicy and full of flavor. Freestone. Heavy producer of medium-sized fruit. Ripens early, around May - June. Requires 300 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

**'KATY'** – Large, flavorful fruit that ripens early, around May - June. A great back yard apricot for warm-winter climates. Requires 400 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

## BLACKBERRIES

**'KIOWA'** - Sweet, LARGE berries! Produces large quantities of berries for about six weeks. This fast-growing variety with erect canes grows 5'-6' tall with a 4'-8' spread. Has thorns. Superior to other blackberries for our area. Great eaten fresh and makes fabulous blackberry pie!

**'OUACHITA'** (PP# 17162)– Bears consistently high yields of large, sweet berries over a five week period on thornless canes. Berries are about the size of a quarter and contain 10-12% sugar. Ouachita has an erect habit making it easy to maintain in the landscape. Disease resistant.

## BLUEBERRIES

**TIP:** All rabbiteye blueberries bloom at about the same time but ripen at different times depending on the variety. Blueberries require acidic soil (pH of 5), even moisture, and full sun. Two different varieties are required for pollination.

*Rabbiteye Blueberry ripening times:*

*Brightwell—early (usually in May)*

*Climax—early (usually in May)*

*Premier—early to mid season*

*Tifblue—mid to late season*

*Woodard—early (usually in May)*

**‘BRIGHTWELL’**—Extremely productive, good tasting rabbiteye blueberry. Vigorous, upright bush with large berries.

**‘CLIMAX’**—Dark berry with good flavor. The berries on this rabbiteye variety tend to ripen at once. Highly regarded as a commercial variety.

**‘PREMIER’**—Sweet and juicy—excellent flavor. Medium to large berries. This rabbiteye variety has slightly less production than others.

**‘TIFBLUE’**—Superb taste. This is the benchmark for all rabbiteye varieties. Use other varieties to lengthen harvest time. Bushy, upright, vigorous growth habit.

**WOODARD’** —Slightly tart, sweet when fully ripe – VERY productive. Large, high quality rabbiteye blueberry.

## FIGS

**‘BANANA’** – A medium size yellow fig with a pale strawberry interior. Very sweet, full flavor, and no bitterness. Closed eye. Good producer. Upright growth habit, okay to prune to the size you want. Very cold hardy. One of the best for our area.

**‘LSU IMPROVED CELESTE’** – Improved yield and larger fruit than Celeste Fig. Light brown-violet skin with strawberry pink flesh. Good for drying and preserves. Ripens July—August. Closed eye.

**‘LSU GOLD’** - Large fruit. Exceptionally sweet. Gold skin with strawberry pulp. Because the fruit has an open eye when mature, it should be picked as soon as it reaches maturity because fruit spoilage may occur during ripening in high moisture periods. Heavy producer. Ripens in June. Good resistance to splitting. Very cold hardy.

**‘LSU PURPLE’** - Delicious mild flavor with high sugar content. Medium sized purple fig with strawberry pulp. A closed-eye fig well suited to the Houston area. Ripens in early July. Heavy producer. Very cold hardy.

## BUNCH GRAPES

**‘MORTENSEN HARDY’ BUNCH GRAPE**— A super table grape. Large, quarter-sized grape with excellent taste and just a few seeds. Ripens in mid-August. Resistant to Pierce’s disease.

## JUJUBE

**TIP:** *Fresh Jujubes have the best flavor when picked and eaten in the morning.*

**'LI'**- Round-shaped fruits are larger than Lang. Sweet and slightly crisp like an apple when fully ripe in early Fall. Beautiful tree with dark green glossy foliage. Easy to grow. Hardy, drought-resistant, virtually pest and disease free. Very low chilling requirement. Self-fruitful, or pollinated by Lang. Also called "Chinese Date".

**'SUGAR CANE'**- Extremely sweet. Small to medium sized fruit on a spiny plant.—the fruit is definitely worth the spines! Excellent either fresh or dried. Ripens early. Self-fruitful.

**'TIGER TOOTH'** - Considered one of the best jujubes. Long, slender fruit has a crisp +texture like an apple. Sweet, mild flavor. Heavy producer every year. Vigorous, nearly thornless tree has dark green, glossy foliage. Self-fruitful. Very drought tolerant.

## MULBERRY

**'PAKISTAN'** – The 'Mother of all Mulberry Trees'. Long (4-5 inches), firm, red to black, sweet fruit. Non-staining juice. Month-long early summer harvest. Fruit used fresh and for pies, jams, and jellies. Large, vigorous, disease-resistant tree. Grows 15'-20' tall.

## MUSCADINE GRAPES

**'ISON'**—Large clusters! 19% sugar content. Black fruit ripens uniformly in early to mid season. Dry scar. Male, self fruitful. Recommend one male plant for every five female.

**'BLACK BEAUTY'**—Clusters of large beautiful, black-skin fruit, 1" - 1 1/4" in diameter. Sugar content 24.5%. Ripens mid-late season. Dry scar. Vigorous vine. One of the best black Muscadines. Female—use Ison to pollinate.

**'DARLENE'**—Bronze skin. Large fruit, 1-1/4" in diameter. Consistently large size throughout the vine. Sugar content 24%. Excellent quality. Female—use Ison to pollinate.

**'FRY'**—Large fruit, up to 1 3/8". 21% sugar content. Bronze fruit ripens over the whole season. Female—use Ison to pollinate.

**'SUPREME'**—Largest muscadine! Large clusters of black fruit. 23% sugar content. Heavy producer on a vigorous vine. Dry scar. Ripens in mid to late season. Female—use Ison to pollinate.

## NECTARINES

**'PANAMINT'** – Attractive red-skinned yellow freestone. Aromatic, intensely flavored, nice acid-sugar balance. Dependable, long-time favorite in warm winter climate. Late July/early August. 250 chill hours Self-fruitful.

**'SNOW QUEEN'** – Taste test winner. Sweet, juicy, early season white freestone. Late June harvest. Low chilling requirement. 250-300 hrs. Self-fruitful.

## OLIVE

**'ARBEQUINA'** — This beautiful 15' weeping-form tree originated in Spain. Earliest to bear fruit, usually at 3 years. Self-fruitful. The black fruit has excellent flavor and is used for oil or table fruit. Ripens in mid Fall. Frost resistant. Requires excellent drainage.

**'MISSION'** - Excellent tasting! Jet black when ripe. Heavy bearing. Most cold resistant.

## PEACHES

**'BONANZA' MINIATURE** — A very special, true dwarf peach tree with good tasting fruit! Beautiful miniature tree with a full, lush growth habit and it only grows 5'-6' tall. Profuse pink blooms followed by heavy crops of fruit with sweet yellow meat. Works well in a container. Ripens in June. Self-fruitful. 250 or less chill hours.

**'MIDPRIDE'** – Exceptional flavor and dessert quality. Best yellow freestone for warm winter climate of Houston. Mid-season ripening, self-fruitful, 250 chill hours.

**'RED BARON'** – This one has it all! Double coral red frilled flowers and large, juicy, firm, richly flavored yellow freestone fruit. Ripens from mid-June to mid-July. 250-500 chill hours. Produces well across the area, from Clear Lake to Conroe. Self-fruitful.

**'TROPIC SNOW'** – Delicious, superb flavor, white freestone for warm-winter climates. Showy blossoms in spring. Very low chill requirements 200 chill hours. Self-fruitful.

**'3-IN-1'**– Three low chill varieties on one tree—an innovation that provides higher production with just one tree. A great choice for gardens with limited space. Each tree will have 3 different selections each of which is recommended for this area. With three varieties grafted onto one tree it is a self-fruitful selection with higher production than single variety peach trees. 250-450 chill hours.

**'5-IN-1'**– FIVE low chill varieties on one tree—an innovation that provides higher production with just one tree. A great choice for gardens with limited space. Each tree will have 5 different selections each of which is recommended for this area. Possible varieties are MidPride, MayPride, Eva's Pride, Florida Prince, with more to be announced shortly. With five varieties grafted onto one tree it is a self-fruitful selection with higher production than single variety peach trees. 250-450 chill hours.

## PEARS

**'ACRES HOMES' (European Pear)** – Large fruit with traditional pear shape—outstanding pear for metro-Houston. Precocious, bearing at 3 years. Nice landscape tree, bears heavily every year. Pollinate with another European pear. Requires 300-350 chill hours.

**'HOSUI' (Asian Pear)** – Consistently rated the best-tasting Asian pear at fruit tastings. Large, juicy, sweet, flavorful, refreshing, crisp like an apple. Brownish-orange russeted skin. 450 hrs. Heavier production if pollinated by another pear.

**'SOUTHERN KING'** - A very good tasting pear. A cross between Hosui Asian and Tennessee European pears, producing an excellent eating fruit. Yellow with a slight red blush. Bears heavily.

**'SOUTHERN QUEEN'** - Russett colored evenly pear shaped fruit. Bears in about 5-6 years and well worth the wait. Seems totally blight resistant. Outstanding for the Houston area. Pollinate with another European Pear. Requires 300-350 chill hours.

**'TENNOUSI' (Asian -European cross)** - Crisp and delicious, a wonderful cross between a European (Tennessee) and an Asian (Hosui) pear. Great blight resistance. Fruit stores well. Bears in 3-5 years. Pollinate with another low chill pear. 400 chill hours.

## PECANS

**'DESIRABLE'** - Nutty and crunchy! Nut clusters thin naturally which aids in consistent production of high quality nuts. Paper-shell. Averages 38 nuts/lb and 54% kernel. Great orchard tree. Needs a pollinator within 1300 ft.

**'OCONEE'** - Heavy bearer of medium to large, thin-shelled nuts. Matures in the latter half of September. Paper-shell. Averages 49 nuts/lb. and 56% kernel. Upright growth habit. A good selection for orchards. Needs a pollinator within 1300 ft.

**'PAWNEE'** – New early harvest variety. Adapted to growing seasons too short for Maham or Western Schley. Medium to large, thin-shelled nut. 250 hrs. Partly self-fruitful, or plant with Mohawk.

**'SUMNER'** - Excellent pecan for both home and orchard. High yield. Disease resistant. Pecans mature in late fall and bear heaviest if cross pollinated with another variety. Ripens late in season. Vigorous tree with consistent production. Excellent disease resistance. Excellent cracking quality.

## PERSIMMONS

***TIP:** There are generally two types of persimmon fruit—Astringent, which should be left to soften and ripen on the tree to avoid bitterness; and Non-astringent, which can be eaten while still firm.*

**'BRAD SAMPLE'** - A delicious, medium to small, astringent, conical persimmon that ripens from late September to October.

**'FUYU'** - Orange with light orange flesh. Medium, sweet tasting, flat shaped fruit; practically pest free. Very hardy, attractive tree. Firm, non-astringent. 200 chill hours. Recommend thinning of over-abundance young fruit to develop good size mature fruit.

**'GIOMBO'** - A connoisseur's choice! Huge fruit are as big as softballs and can weigh up to 1 lb. Sweet tasting fruit have a smooth custard-style texture. Astringent. Self-fruitful. Ripens in mid-October. Very cold hardy.

**'SURUGA'** - A large red, semi-flat fruit. Very sweet, excellent taste. Vigorous, slightly upright tree. Non-astringent.

## PLUMS

**'BEAUTY'** – Sweet, flavorful plum with good production in coastal climates. Red over yellow skin, amber flesh is streaked red. Ripens in late May. 250 chill hours. Pollinate with Santa Rosa, Beauty or any other low chill plum.

**'ROBUSTO'** – Very good quality plum that is tough and disease resistant. It ripens early June. Stores very well. Consistent producer and is an excellent pollinator for other plums. This variety has a bronze-red skin and red flesh coupled with a great flavor. 400-500 chill hours.

**'SEGUNDO'** – Another plum that is tough and disease resistant. This variety has a red skin and orange-red flesh coupled with a great flavor. Needs a pollinator. Ripens mid June. 400-500 chill hours.

**SPRITE-DELIGHT 2-IN-1 CHERRY PLUM** – A great combination of Japanese Plum and a cherry-plum grafted onto one tree. Sweet, freestone, not tart. Flavorful and refreshing – wonderful for eating fresh. Ripe fruit holds on tree up to 3-4 weeks. 400 chill hours.

**'3-In-1'— 3-in-1 Plum** – Three low chill varieties on one tree – an innovation that provides higher production with just one tree! A great choice for gardens with limited space. Each tree will have three different selections from the following varieties – Beauty, Burgundy, Methley, Golden Nectar or Santa Rosa. All of these are great tasting, low chill selections recommended for this area. With three varieties grafted onto one tree it is a self-fruitful selection with higher production than single variety plum trees.

**Spice Zee Nectaplum™** - A beautiful, prolific tree for the home gardener. The fruit is slightly acidic and loaded with sugar, giving it a spicy sweet flavor with hints of both Plum and Nectarine. Along with great flavor, Spice Zee is a beautiful ornamental tree with a tremendous spring bloom followed by dark red leaves in the spring that mature to rich green-red in late summer. Self-fruitful and very productive.

## POMEGRANATE

Pomegranates are a luscious jewel of a fruit! Packed inside are hundreds of ruby-red arils (sweet, tart, gemlike juice sacs). Eat arils whole, seeds & all – add to salads and other dishes. High in vitamin C and an excellent source of antioxidants. Unless otherwise noted they form small 10'-12' multi-trunked trees or large shrubs with the ornamental bonus of gorgeous trumpet-shaped orange flowers giving way to the delicious fruit. Pomegranates are easy to grow, like full sun and a moist-well drained soil. Responds well to pruning.

*Tip All of the pomegranates have large, showy orange-red flowers that hummingbirds love!*

**'AMBROSIA'** - Huge fruit with sweet-tart juice. Self-fruitful. 150 chill hours

**'EVERSWEET'** – Very sweet. Red skin, clear (non-staining) juice. 150 chill units. Self-fruitful.

**'GARNET SASH'** – Large crops of dark red fruit with deep red sweet-tart seeds. Self-fruitful.

**'RED SILK'** – Semi-dwarf tree grows up to 6'. Red juice with a delicious grenadine flavor. Heavy bearer. Self-fruitful.

**SHARP VELVET** - Large dark red fruit. Deep red seeds with mildly refreshing flavor. Self-fruitful. 150-200 chill hours.

# CITRUS

## CITRON

**'BUDDHA'S HAND'** —Fascinating citrus with “fingers,” used for scent or decoration. Rind is thick and highly scented. Somewhat cold hardy, must be protected from a hard freeze.

## GRAPEFRUIT

**'BLOOMSWEET'**—Juicy and sweet with the unique flavor of grapefruit and orange. Easy to peel and segment. Ripens throughout December. Most cold hardy grapefruit.

**'GOLDEN'**—Superb grapefruit with amber flesh. Juicy with a mild sweet flavor—much sweeter than any other grapefruit. Fairly seedy. Good sized fruit. Moderately cold hardy.

**'RIO RED'**—Deep red flesh with the typical sweet-acid taste of a red grapefruit. Seedless. Large size tree, early to mature. A Texas A&M University release. Moderately cold hardy.

## KUMQUAT

*Tip: On kumquats, the flavor is in the skin, you eat the entire fruit!*

**'CHANG-SHOU'** - A large kumquat with sweet, mild flavor. Juicy with very few seeds. Ripens in late fall. Works well as a container plant. Very cold hardy.

**'MEIWA SEEDLESS'**- a seedless version of the 'Meiwa'. Sweet, acidic and relatively juicy.

## LEMON

**'FROST EUREKA'** – Another favorite from California, Frost Eureka Lemon grows vigorously with a spreading and open form. The new growth and flowers are tinged with purple. Eureka lemon trees may bear multiple crops per year but the main season is late winter, spring and early summer. Eureka lemons are medium-small and the tree is less thorny and slightly less cold-hardy than Lisbon.

**'IMPROVED MEYER'** is a lemon that is actually cold hardy! Produces a large, juicy, very good quality lemon. Cold tolerant to the low to mid 20s. May freeze to the ground in a hard freeze but produces again within 18 months. Flowers in spring and fruits in fall. Can produce 2 crops a year if it's in a protected area.

**'SEEDLESS LISBON'** - Outstanding, large, juicy lemon. Seedless! Does well in our hot weather, fruit holds well on the tree. Makes a great container plant. Not as cold hardy as improved Meyer Lemon.

## LIME

**'BEARRS'** - Almost identical to the Persian and Tahiti Lime except that it's slightly larger. Thin rind, very juicy and almost always seedless. Bearrs is an everbearing tree with very fragrant white blossoms and dense dark green foliage. A little more cold hardy than the Mexican Lime.

**'MEXICAN THORNLESS'** - A beautiful, small, ever bearing tree of excellent quality fruit! Very productive! Makes great pies, limeade, (gin & tonic) etc. Also, a very attractive container plant as it is not cold tolerant. Fruit has a pale yellow color, strong lemon-lime aroma, and a sharp clean sour taste. Thin skin. Bears year round. Same as the famous Key Lime!

**'PALESTINE SWEET'** - Looks and smells like a lime—with a very subtle, sweet flavor. Very juicy. Vigorous grower, produces throughout the year. Skin and fruit are yellow when ripe. The nearly seedless limes may be squeezed for juice or grated for zest. Extremely cold hardy.

## MANDARIN

**'CLEMANTINE'**- Juicy and sweet! Gourmet flavor, seedless and easy to peel. Fruit ripens early and holds well on the tree for months. Cold hardy to the mid 20s once established.

**'PAGE'**- Rich, sweet flavor. One of the best mandarins for juice. Ripens in winter. Small tree, good for container planting. Sensitive to freeze when young, then cold hardy to the mid 20s.

## ORANGE

**'HAMLIN SWEET ORANGE'** – Hamlin is the most widely grown early sweet orange in Florida and, as the name suggests, the flavor is sweet with little acid. The tree is moderately vigorous, medium-large, and more cold-tolerant than most. Fruit matures October through January.

**'MORO' BLOOD'** —Bears juicy medium sized fruit with a very distinctive aroma and a hint of berry flavor. Nearly seedless with red to pink pulp, depending on number of cool nights. It tends to bear heavily in alternate years. Moderately cold hardy.

**'REPUBLIC OF TEXAS'** is the first citrus grown in Texas around the Santa Fe area, dating back to 1847. Considered the most cold hardy of all oranges. The fruit is very sweet, juicy, highly flavorful and slightly seedy. Mature size averages 15' x 15' if not pruned.

**'UJUKITSU'** - A cross between an orange and a lemon with a mild, delicious orange flavor. Unique taste is unforgettable! Also known as the lemonade fruit. Quite cold hardy.

**'WASHINGTON NAVEL'** - Exceptionally delicious, seedless and easy to peel. Washington navel orange, is also known as the Bahia for the Brazilian city from which it was imported into the United States in 1870. Navel orange trees have a round, somewhat drooping canopy and grow to a moderate size at maturity. The Washington navel orange is at its best in the late fall to winter months, but will hold on the tree for several months beyond maturity and stores well.

## PUMMELO

'**CHANDLER**' - Pink pulp is sweet and juicy. Easily segmented for eating fresh. Lacks the tartness of grapefruit. Very few seeds. May grow to the size of a soccer ball.

## SATSUMAS

*TIP:* *Satsumas are generally cold hardy to the low 20s. Best when picked just after orange coloring begins to appear on the skin. Do not wait until they are fully orange or you will lose the best flavor.*

'**BROWN SELECT**' - Sweeter than Owari Satsuma, this variety ripens in mid-season (late October into November). Easy to peel, few seeds.

'**MR. MAC**' - Old line Owari clone named after Murphy "Mac" McEachern to honor his work with the Louisiana citrus industry. Easy to peel, few seeds. Ripens late—October and November.

'**MIHO**' – This early maturing, high-quality, cold-tolerant Satsuma begins to color in late summer and early fall reaching maturity on or before Thanksgiving. Peel is smooth, thin and leathery.

'**OWARI**' is a late maturing mandarin, which is very cold tolerant. It has a sweet flavor, low acidity and a very delicate fruit. Easy to peel and seedless. Cold hardy to 22 degrees or lower.

'**SETO**' - Ripens in mid-season so it is ready on or before Thanksgiving. Very good flavor. The peel is notably smoother and thinner than other satsumas and the fruit is quite flat.

## TANGOR

'**WILKING**' - This tangor is the result of a 1925 cross between the Willow-leaf Orange and the King Mandarin. It has a compact, bushy growing habit with willow like leaves. The fruit is orange in color and has an excellent juicy flavor along with numerous seeds. Like many citrus, it tends to crop heavily in alternate years.

## ***SEMI-TROPICAL and TROPICAL FRUIT***

## ALLSPICE

Fragrance! The scent of the foliage combines the fragrance of cloves, juniper, pepper, cinnamon and nutmeg. When in bloom, the air is filled with the wonderful aroma. The bark and leaves are also aromatic. Fruit is used as an ingredient in Caribbean and North Indian cuisine. A beautiful small landscape tree, good in a container. *ALWAYS protect from cold for the first few years after planting.*

## AVOCADO

**TIP:** For the first few years after planting, *Avocados need protection from winter cold and extended hours in direct sun in the summer. Avocados must be planted where they have good drainage. They generally grow about 25'-30' tall by 20' wide. Note that Avocados ripen AFTER picking.*

'**OPAL ®**' - Originated in Uvalde. Rich taste! Pear-shaped fruit ripens green with paper-thin skin. A self-fruitful Mexican Avocado. A vigorous tree with an upright growth habit. Normally evergreen once established. Once established, they can handle down to 24 -26 degrees for short periods.

'**PONCHO**' – A medium-large green fruit, cold hardy Mexican avocado. A vigorous tree with an upright growth habit. Normally evergreen once established. **Once established**, they can handle down to 24-26 degrees for short periods.

'**WILMA™**' - Creamy texture—large, delicious fruit! Ripens black. A self-fruitful Mexican Avocado. A vigorous tree with an upright growth habit. Normally evergreen once established. Once established, they can handle down to 24 -26 degrees for short periods.

## CHERRY

(Will be sold as a bundle of 2 with 1 of each variety)

'**MINNIE ROYAL**' - A true cherry, with high sugars and flavor. The tree is very productive with a low chill requirement. Pollinated by Royal Lee. The first sweet cherry pair that will be productive in metro-Houston.

'**ROYAL LEE**' - A true cherry, with excellent flavor. Medium-large heart shaped very firm fruit. Pollinated by Minnie Royal. The first sweet cherry pair that will be productive in metro-Houston.

## BARBADOS CHERRY

**B17 EDIBLE BARBADOS CHERRY (Acerola Cherry)**— Beautiful, fast growing ornamental tree that flowers spring, summer and into fall. Rose colored flowers produce a tasty cherry-plum-like fruit that is sweet and high in Vitamin C. Can have up to 4 fruiting cycles through the summer. Deciduous. Averages 15' tall. Full sun. *Mature tree is cold hardy into the twenties, must protect young trees until well established.*

## CHERRY OF THE RIO GRANDE

Beautiful evergreen shrub with glossy, dark green leaves. Not a true cherry, but a delicious substitute! Can be eaten fresh or used to make jams, jellies and preserves. Pleasant and tasty, sweet cherry flavor. Flowering season can last several months, beginning in March. **ALWAYS protect from cold for the first few years after planting. When established, is hardy to 20 degrees.**

## DRAGON FRUIT

'**AMERICAN BEAUTY**' —Deep red flesh with a sweet pleasant flavor. The plant grows like a climbing cactus and produces a beautiful flower. Good source of lycopene. Self fruiting. Protect from freeze, especially in early years after planting.

## LYCHEE

**Truly Delicious!** This tree is a vigorous grower with hemispherical shape.

**BREWSTER** – Fruit is red, sweet and juicy.

**MAURITIUS** - Fruit is pink to red, sweet but spicier than Brewster.

## PAPAYA

**'TAINUNG DWARF'** – A vigorous and productive papaya that produces a very high yield of fruit. Very sweet and firm fruit. Fruit sets low to the ground. High yielder in as little as six months.

## PITAYA

Peruvian Andes candelabra cactus! Grows to look like giant Saguaro. Fruit is delicious—red and oblong, with the fragrance of roses. Very cold hardy.

## STARFRUIT

Star Fruit are small symmetrical trees that fruit very prolifically. They are commonly eaten fresh, in salads, as garnishes and in drinks. The fruit have a sweet citrus-like flavor that is both delicious and refreshing. Protect from freezing below 28 degrees when mature and from any freeze when young.

**'ARKIN'** – Crisp, juicy and sweet with few seeds. Heavy producer. Fruit forms a perfect star shape when sliced crosswise. Ripens late summer through February. A gorgeous tree that seems to be always blooming and fruiting. Averages 15'-20' tall. Deciduous.

**'KARI'** – Heavy producer of large clusters of sweet, crisp, juicy, 6" fruit! Starfruit forms a perfect star shape when sliced crosswise.

## ***PLANTING TIPS***

### **Bare Root Planting Tips:**

Plant as soon as possible when you purchase the tree. Plant in full sun with good drainage. Dig a hole that is wide and deep enough to accommodate the root system. Spread the roots out. The graft, where the tree was grafted onto a hardy, disease resistant variety, should be a couple of inches above the soil when you finish planting. Use existing soil only—no amendments. Water in well, and water every day for a few days unless it rains.

If you cannot plant bare root trees immediately, heal them into the soil until you can plant or at least make sure the roots do not dry out. Healing involves burying the roots in the soil and moistening the soil in order to keep the roots alive.

### **Citrus Planting Tips:**

Young trees can be susceptible to freeze damage so Citrus trees that are purchased in fall or winter should be kept in the pots until all danger of freeze has passed. Plant in a well drained area that receives at least a full half day of sun. The more sun the tree receives each day the better the production. If possible, plant them on the south side of a house or building where they may get protection from winter winds. Plant in existing soil without amenities, and make sure the graft is several inches above the soil line. When planted, water every day for a few days and then back off to once a week unless it rains.

## **CHILL HOURS**

The dormant buds of many plants require a period of cold weather to grow, flower, and develop properly, but requirements vary widely by species. For dormant buds of fruit trees, this is commonly referred to as the **chilling requirement**. **Chill hours** are calculated as a tool for fruit producers to gauge whether their crop has been exposed to cold temperatures for a long enough time period. The calculation is based on high and low temperatures during winter dormancy months. (See: <http://etweather.tamu.edu/chill.htm>)

Fort Bend and Harris Counties average 400-600 chill hours annually.  
The Gulf and Bay areas average 300 or less chill hours annually.  
Counties north of Harris average 600+ chill hours annually.

## **CITRUS ROOT STOCK**

**Trifoliate Orange** rootstock is well adapted to heavy poorly drained soils, extremely cold hardy and drought tolerant once established. It's the best rootstock for the Houston/ Gulf Coast area.

**'Flying Dragon' Trifoliate Orange** rootstock is the dwarfing form of Trifoliate orange. It has all the same qualities as Trifoliate orange except that citrus grafted onto it averages only 6'-8' in height. It is great for a small garden, in a container or useful in ultra density plantings. Very cold hardy.

**'Swingle' Citrumelo** is a vigorous rootstock. Citrus grafted onto 'Swingle' rootstock produce high quality fruit suitable for eating out of hand.