



The Plant Professionals

Planting Your Fruit Tree

Select a site that is well drained, receives at least a half-day of sun, and if possible, is not fully exposed to strong spring/summer winds.

Dig a hole 2 to 3 times wider and no deeper than the pot your tree comes in. Mix soil from the hole thoroughly with Nature's Blend Compost or Espoma CitrusTone at the rate of 4 parts soil to 1 part compost (or less for CitrusTone).

Remove the roots carefully from the pot, and place the rootball carefully into the hole. If the top of the rootball is lower than the surrounding soil, lift the tree out of the hole and put soil in the bottom of the hole before setting the rootball back in the hole. It's ok to plant a tree a few inches higher, especially in heavy clay soils, but do not plant your tree any lower. Backfill around the roots with your soil/compost mix, firming soil gently every few inches to avoid any air pockets around the roots. Water thoroughly to be sure soil is settled, then mulch with hardwood mulch or pine straw. We recommend placing 3 Agriform fertilizer tablets into the soil around the upper edge of the rootball at planting time.

Water your new fruit tree as needed, which could be as often as once a day if the weather is hot and windy just after planting, but will more likely be twice or once a week. Do not keep the roots overly soggy. Keep grass and weeds, and especially mowers and weedeaters, away from the trunk, with a 3 foot wide or wider circle of just mulch. Do not build a "mulch volcano" up on the trunk of the tree, the mulch should be over the roots and outward where you want the roots to grow, but not stacked up on the trunk. Fertilize with Fertilome Fruit, Citrus, Pecan Tree Food after you have achieved 12" or more of new growth, and repeat applications at 6 week intervals every February and May for maximum growth rate and fruit production.