

TREASURE VALLEY GROWN
FARM SEEDS

CITRUS

Citrus is great as a container plant here in the Pacific Northwest. Our Spring summer, and fall temperatures are perfect. When the nighttime temperatures begin cooling below 50 degrees F, bring your citrus indoors and enjoy the fragrant blossoms.

Growing

Citrus need cool temperatures in winter, but must be above freezing. Lots of light will promote blooming. During late fall, winter and early spring, keep under grow lights for 12 hours a day. They can lost their leaves in heat or whenever sudden changes in temperature, light levels or humidity occur. This is a normal reaction and the foliage will grow back as soon as the environment stabilizes.

In the spring, when nighttime temperatures consistently reach 50 degrees F, it's time to put your plant outside. Choose a site that gets morning sun with afternoon shade. As the plant acclimates to the sun, it could be gradually moved to a full sun position.

Watering

Citrus trees prefer moist well-drained soil. It's time to water when the top 1-2 inches of soil dries out. Do not leave the container in standing water. If you are having problems determining water needs— It's time to buy a moisture meter.

Fertilizing

Fertilize with a good citrus food, such as Schultz Citrus & Tropical plant food or Dr. Earth (Organic) Tomato, Vegetable & Herb fertilizer. Start fertilizing in spring, continuing into summer and fall, at 90 day intervals. Fertilizing in September helps with the flower development and fruit growth.

Common Insect Problems on Citrus

Aphids— tiny, (1/8 inch) green or black soft-bodied insects cluster on stems and leaves

Mealybugs—slender, flat insects with a white, cottony covering

Scale— small, white to brown bumps along leaf veins and stems

Spider Mites—webs on undersides of leaves. Damage appears as whitish specks on the leaves.

Thrips— small, orange-yellow insects (barely visible). Thrips damage appears on leaves, fruit or at base of flower petals.

Control for Insects

Insecticidal Soap, Horticultural Oil. **Read and follow manufacturer's directions.**

Mealybugs and scale can be removed with cotton balls saturated with a solution of 3 parts rubbing alcohol/1 part water.