



A Home Orchard in a Small Space

We can help you plan, plant and successfully harvest your own home-grown fruit year-round!

Fruit trees are easy to grow in New Zealand no matter where you live, even if your garden is on the small size. There are dwarf forms and varieties of most fruits which don't take a lot of space and when many can be grown in containers or espaliered on a fence, anything is possible.

When planning your orchard it's important to consider pollination, when fruit ripens and the mature size of your trees. It is also helpful to know that some fruits may only be available for purchase at certain times of the year.

ican Harvest is a selection of fruit trees that are ideal for the home gardener. You can be assured that they will perform exceptionally well as these fruit trees have been hand-picked by experts. The varieties have been selected for their excellent taste, reliable fruiting ability, ease to grow and suitability for the smaller garden. In addition they can be successfully grown in pots.

Yes, you can have fruit on your deck and patio, and they make great gifts!

Find more ican products and advice on Facebook
facebook.com/theicangarden.

Choosing which fruit and varieties

Consider these factors when choosing what fruit and varieties to grow.

1 What fruit do you like?

Everyone has favourite fruit. Apples, pears, peaches, plums and nectarines are regular favourites.

Some citrus are essential such as lemons and easy peel mandarins. Or you might prefer berry fruits and easy to grow feijoas. Hence it often comes down to what to leave out!

2 How much space do you have?

In very small gardens, space may be limited to a lemon, perhaps a mandarin and a feijoa; but when dwarf trees can be trained as espaliers, columns, or grown in pots, you can fit more in. Mix fruit trees and bushes through your garden, where they may provide shade, screening, and spring and autumn colour.

3 What grows best in your region?

Fruit trees will grow in most regions, although because of severe frosts, some areas will not be suitable for some citrus, feijoas and other subtropical fruits. Fruits that require low winter temperatures to set fruit, may not be suitable for warm regions but new varieties are available that will set fruit without winter chilling. For success, your site should be sunny and sheltered from strong wind.



Lemon tree

4 When does it ripen?

The popular summer fruits such as apples, plums, peaches and nectarines, all fruit around the same time which means you can have barrow loads in just a few weeks. However with careful planning and selection from the extensive range of fruit available to home gardeners, it is possible to pick a steady supply of fresh fruit from your garden for 12 months of the year.



Blueberries

5 Consider the work involved

Some fruits require very little work (eg. feijoas and citrus), while others require time for pruning, spraying or netting, and sometimes all three.

In summary, each of these factors will carry more or less emphasis for you. You might reach a compromise based on – fruit you like that will grow well in your region, that provides fruit to pick for most or all of the year, that requires moderate to minimum levels maintenance.

Ask our team in store for advice on the best fruits to grow in your garden.

Rootstocks & 'dwarfing'

Some fruit tree varieties are naturally dwarf, whilst other fruit trees can be grafted onto a 'dwarfing rootstock' which will reduce the size of the tree from its usual height. Container growing also restricts the size of a tree.

Pollination

Pollination is essential to ensure fruit set and is normally performed by bees and insects and in some fruits, by birds and wind. Most fruit trees will set fruit freely, but some require a companion tree of the same type to set fruit or enhance the crop. For a small garden, you may be able to purchase double or triple grafted fruit trees which have different pollinating and fruiting varieties on the one trunk.





How to grow fruit in your garden

The site

For success, your fruit trees will grow best in a warm sunny position with shelter from strong winds.

The soil

Fruit trees grow best in a free draining soil enriched with organic matter (compost). If your soil is heavy with clay, build up the planting area 15 cm or more with topsoil and compost to improve the drainage.

Soil preparation

Before planting your fruit trees, prepare the soil by working-in generous quantities of compost, 3-4 handfuls of lime (or a lime dolomite mix), and 3-6 tablespoons, depending on the plant size, of **ican Slow Food**.

Planting

Before you plant, soak the plant's root ball in a bucket of water so it is fully saturated. Dig a hole as deep as the root ball and wide enough to allow the roots to spread out evenly. For bare-root trees, place the roots on a low mound in the bottom of the hole to reduce air pockets. Supporting stakes are recommended for trees and should be positioned now to prevent root injury.

Backfill the hole with the prepared soil. Firm the soil in well until it is filled to the same level as before. Make sure the graft union on grafted trees, is well above the soil level. Use a soft tie to secure the tree to the stake(s). Finally, water well to settle the soil in around the roots.

Feeding

The fertiliser applied at planting time will be sufficient for the first 12 months. After the first year, feed your fruit trees with **ican Fruit Food** three times a year – September, December and March.

Watering

Your fruit trees will need to be watered during dry periods especially in their first few years. A weeper soak hose connected to a timer is an easy alternative to hand watering.



We Recommend

ican Slow Food will provide your fruit plants with 24 months of balanced feeding as and when they need it. The controlled release fertiliser acts with temperature to provide more fertiliser when the plant growth is active and less when it's not.

Harvesting Calendar

Fresh fruit for every month of the year



FRUIT		WE RECOMMEND	GROWS IN CONTAINERS
SMALL BERRIES			
Strawberry		Numerous	✓
Boysenberry		Brulee	✓
Blueberry*	Early	O'Neal / Muffin	✓
	Early to mid	Tasty Blue* / Blue Magic* / Tifblue	
	Mid to late	Centurion / Muffin / Rahi	
Currant		Black Magnus / Black Sefton / red / white	✓
Gooseberry		Farmer's Glory / Invicta / Pax	✓
Raspberry	Early to mid	Aspiring / Mini Me / Waiua / Tulameen	✓
	Late	Aspiring / Heritage	
Blackberry		Black Satin	✓
STONE FRUIT			
Apricot**	Early	Solar Perfection	✓
	Mid	Aprigold (dwarf)	
	Late	Trevatt	
Cherry*	Early	Tangshe	✓
	Mid to late	Compact Stella (dwarf) / Lapins	
Nectarine	Early to mid	Kay Pearl / Silver King / Snow Queen	✓
	Mid to late	Theo Ching / Fantasia / Red Gold	
Peach		Healy's Peacherine	
Peach	Early	Pixzee (dwarf) / Golden Tatura	✓
	Mid	Rich Lady / Blackboy / White Princess / Wiggins	
	Late	Golden Queen / Honey Babe	
Plum*	Early	Duff's Early Jewel / Wilsons Early	
	Mid	Billington / Black Doris / Hawera / Teak Gold	
	Late	Luisa / Hunterston / Omega	
PIP FRUIT			
Apple*	Early	Cox's Orange / Croquella (dwarf) / Sweetie	✓
	Mid	Splendour / Roy's Pearl / Pinkie	
	Late	Scarlet & Crimson Spire / Topaz / Granny Smith	
Nashi pear**		Reddy Robin / Nijiseiki	
Pear*	Early to mid	Williams Bon Chretien / Crispie (pear-nashi hybrid) / Conference	
	Mid to late	Beurre Bosc / Doyenne du Comice / Packham's Triumph	
OTHER FRUIT			
Avocado**	Hass		
	Reed		
	Bacon		
	Feurte		
Passionfruit		Black	✓
Grape	Early to mid	Schuyler / Niagara	
	Mid to late	White Diamond / Albany Surprise	
Fig**	Early	Ventura	✓
	Mid	Mrs Williams / Brown Turkey	
	Late	Brunswick / Preston Prolific / French Sugar	
Feijoa*	Early to mid	Sherbet / Takaka / Unique / Pounamu	✓
	Mid	Wiki Tu / Den's Choice / Kakapo	
	Mid to late	Opal Star / Triumph / Waingarō	
Persimmon		Fuyu	
Tamarillo		Ted's Red / Hardy Harry	✓
CITRUS			
Lemon	Meyer / Yen Ben		✓
	Genoa / Villa Franca		
	Lemonade		
Mandarin	Encore		✓
	Satsuma - Miho / Miyagawa / Kawano / Silverhill		
	Clementine / Afourer		
Orange	Valencia - Lue Gim Gong / Harwood Late		✓
	Navel - Navellina / Washington Navel / Fukumoto		
	Blood orange		
Tangelo		Seminole	✓
Grapefruit	Golden Special / Cutler's Red		✓
	Wheeny		
Lime		Tahitian - Bearss	✓

Notes *pollinating plant required. Pipfruit require a pollinating plant but often a neighbourhood tree does the trick
 **mostly self-fertile but will produce more fruit if planted with another variety nearby

This calendar serves as a guide to the fruiting seasons. In the regions, fruiting may start earlier or later depending on your climate. To grow fruit trees in containers, choose compact varieties or those grafted onto dwarf rootstock - ask our team in store for advice.

NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT



Citrus tree



Feijoa tree

How to grow fruit in containers

You can grow most fruits successfully in containers, providing a few simple but important rules are followed.

Growing in containers will assist in maintaining a small size and if you want to grow large fruit trees such as pip and stone fruit select a dwarf or compact variety for success. Fruit trees and bushes grown in pots will need watering and feeding more regularly than those planted in the ground. Keep your fruit in pots well-watered and fed, and you'll soon be harvesting your own delicious crops.



Apple Croquella

The pot

For success, choose pots of 42-60 cm diameter holding approximately 35-40 litres of potting mix. This size is suitable for most small growing fruits and will restrict the size of larger trees.

Potting mix

We recommend you use only the best. The potting mix for fruit trees needs to be free draining but also have good water holding and feeding capacity. Premium potting mixes contain a slow-release fertiliser that will last for 6 months, water storage granules and a soil wetting agent.

Feeding

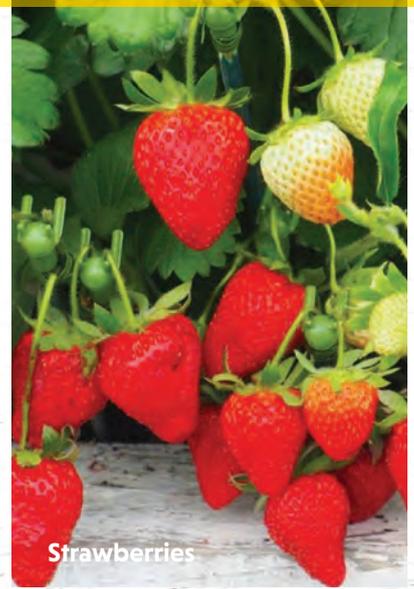
Fruiting plants growing in containers will use all the nutrients in the potting mix in a few months. You can replenish the potting mix with **ican Slow Food** which will slowly release nutrients to the plant over the next few months.

Watering

In spring and autumn your fruit pots may require daily watering, and twice daily in summer. To give your fruit a boost when they are actively growing, water with liquid **ican Fast Food**. When potting mix becomes dry, it repels water and you may see water quickly runs out the bottom of the pot. Add a wetting agent such as **Saturaid** so that water soaks into the potting mix and is available to the plant.



Blackberries



Strawberries

Pruning and training for continuous fruiting

A few simple, well-placed cuts can improve fruiting and limit the size of your fruit trees, ensuring they stay compact enough for your garden.

Pruning creates the shape of a plant, removes dead and diseased wood, thins out growth for better airflow and disease control, and reinvigorates trees to produce new growth for fruiting.

To make best use of space a central leader shape or espalier is most popular. This makes pruning, picking, and spraying easier.

However, not all fruiting plants require an annual prune and some dwarf varieties have been bred to eliminate the need for it.

Before you start any pruning, identify on what growth the flowers and fruit form for each type of fruit and if pruning is required.

Ask our team in store for advice on your fruit trees' requirements.

1

Current season growth (new growth)



These are easiest to prune, because whether you prune hard or light they will still crop. Aim to maintain the desired size and shape of the tree, that is open enough for good air flow, and maintains and replaces fruiting wood that is vigorous and high producing.

2

One-year old wood (last year's growth)



Peaches and nectarines produce a lot of new wood each year, which is often much more than required. To maintain the size and shape of the tree and also regular crops, cut back and thin out much of the growth. In older trees, some branches may be removed totally and new ones established.

3

New growth from one-year old wood



In general, following harvest, remove stems that carried fruit and tie in new stems grown from the main plant to replace them. The new stems may also be shortened.

4

Spurs which last several years



It takes two to three years for spurs to form and fruit. These spurs continue to produce fruit each year. Old spurs may be removed which will rejuvenate new ones, or if the branch carrying the spurs is losing vigour, remove the whole branch to encourage new growth. It is normal for trees to produce new growth each year but when your trees have reached the desired size and shape, all unwanted growth can be removed.



ican Harvest Fruit and products are available at retailers in the Garden Independents Network, a group of innovative, independently owned garden centres across New Zealand.

Country Dog Garden Centre, Paeroa

Décor Gardenworld, Tauranga

Touchstone Garden Centre, Gisborne

Big Jim's Garden Centre, New Plymouth

Garden Edge, Hawera

Green Door Garden & Décor, Havelock North

Springvale Garden Centre, Wanganui

Harrisons Gardenworld, Feilding

Harrisons Gardenworld, Waikanae

Garden Barn, Masterton

Twigland Gardener's World, Wellington

Terra Viva Home & Garden, Christchurch

Lushingtons Garden Gift & Café, Ashburton

