

**2018 Urban Harvest Fruit Tree Sale Catalog**  
**Saturday, January 13, 2018, 9:00am – 1:00pm**  
**Houston Community College, West Loop Campus**  
**5601 West Loop South**

**Descriptions of Available Varieties**

Note: Additions or deletions may occur before sale day due to all of the variables that can affect live plants, including weather, crop failure, and shipping.

**Berries & Grapes**

**Cane Berries**

**Kiowa Blackberry** – Produces the largest berries of the Arkansas varieties. Large quantities of outstanding, flavorful berries are produced for about six weeks on thorny, but easily manageable, canes. Blooms earlier and longer than other blackberries. If you can only grow one variety, this is by far the best. **200 chill hours.**

**Prime-Ark Freedom Blackberry** – New release from the berry program at the University of Arkansas. This is the first thornless primo-cane bearing blackberry. Prime-Ark Freedom fruits near the top of the current season's growth (primocane) in late summer (August-September). It will produce a second crop on the over-wintered growth (floricane) in the spring (May-June). After the floricane crop is harvested, cut the cane to the ground to encourage new primocanes. Good fruit size, disease resistance, and tolerance to heat & humidity. **150 chill hours.**

**Caroline Raspberry (PP# 10412)** – The search for a raspberry that will perform well in Southeast Texas continues! Caroline is the newest raspberry to show promise for our area. Vigorous, erect canes produce large, firm, conical berries with strong raspberry flavor. Floricane crop ripens in summer, Primocane crop may ripen from September through frost. Provide partial afternoon shade and even moisture. Self-fruitful.

**Blueberries**

Low chill blueberries grow and produce well in the Houston area. Blueberries have attractive blue-green foliage through spring and summer. In fall they turn beautiful colors of burgundy, gold and red. Blueberry blossoms are borne in clusters of tiny white bells. The delicious and healthy fruit follows. Varieties ripen at different times so planting more than one variety will extend the harvest as well as increase pollination and production. Blueberries require acidic soil (pH of 5), even moisture, full sun. They can be grown as an informal hedge, a specimen shrub, or in large (15" - 18") containers.

**Blueberries, Rabbiteye**

**Climax** – Medium size berries, sweet flavor. Upright growth with intense green foliage. Early ripening. Berries tend to ripen all at once. Pollinize with any other Rabbiteye.

**Pink Lemonade** – Beautiful all year long! White flowers are tinged with pink in early spring. Pale green fruit follows and ripens from dappled pink to bright pink. Fall foliage is gold and orange, and winter twigs are a mahogany color. Upright habit. Self-fruitful, but better when pollinized with any other Rabbiteye.

**Premier** – Large, light blue, good quality fruit, excellent flavor. Highly productive, upright growth, good foliage. Early to mid-season ripening. Pollinize with any other Rabbiteye.

**Tifblue** - Medium to large, light blue, good quality berries. Vigorous upright plants hold up well until last berries are harvested. Early to mid-season ripening. The best ornamental with good fall leaf color. Pollinize with any other Rabbiteye.

## **Blueberries, Southern Highbush**

**Emerald** - Combines a vigorous, upright, bush with high yield potential, early ripening, and high-quality berries. Fruit is very large, firm, medium blue, with excellent flavor. **250 chill hours**

**Misty** – All-around “best of show” for the landscape. Flowers are touched with pink against attractive blue-green foliage. Leaves may remain evergreen in mild winters and will turn a brilliant red before falling in colder winters. Medium-large berries are sky blue and very sweet - heavy bearer. Vigorous, upright shrub, 5’ – 6’ tall. Heat tolerant. Self pollinizing or pollinize with any other Southern Highbush. Early variety. **300 chill hours.**

**Sunshine Blue** – Wow! This semi-dwarf blueberry grows to 3’ with a compact, upright habit. It is the perfect selection for containers, borders, hedgerows, and small gardens. Showy, hot pink flowers that fade to white followed by large crops of delicious berries. Sunshine Blue tolerates higher pH soils better than many other blueberries. Evergreen in mild winters. Self-pollinizing or pollinize with any other Southern Highbush. Mid- to late variety. **150 chill hours.**

## **Grapes, Bunching**

**Black Spanish (Le Noir)** – A juicy grape with blue-black skin. Used for fresh eating, juice, jelly and winemaking. It is a heavy and regular producer that is resistant to Pierce’s Disease and mildew. This variety has been grown in Texas for several hundred years. Ripens August to September and benefits from cane pruning.

**Blanc du Bois** - An award-winning cultivar that is considered among the very best white grapes for southern regions of the United States. Developed at the University of Florida, Blanc du Bois withstands heat and humidity, and is very resistant to Pierce’s Disease.

**Favorite** - Medium-sized grape with blackish-blue skin and flavorful, juicy flesh. This variety is a seedling selection of ‘Black Spanish’. Good for warm climates and a favorite for home wine making.

**Red Flame** – Vigorous vine with round, red grapes in medium-sized, loose clusters. Seedless, sweet and crisp, ripens in July - August. Wonderful table grape. This is the red grape commonly found in the market, but it is even better when vine-ripened. Self-fertile.

## **Grapes, Muscadine (Plant one male for every 2 females)**

**15-1-1** – Black female (requires pollinizer). 21% sugar. Large, beautiful clusters of dark red berries that have exceptional flavor and edible skins. Berries have a dry scar for extended storage quality. 1.1/4” berries. Ripens mid-season.

**Darlene Muscadine** – Bronze female (requires pollinizer). A beautiful bronze female variety that contains 22%-24% sugar. The flavor is unbeatable. It is considered by most to be the best bronze muscadine variety available, and is not only a gourmet treat, but also one of the better flavored fruits you will ever eat. The ‘*Darlene*’ muscadine produces consistently large fruit that is 1 ¼” in diameter. Fruit is bronze that turns pinkish in color as it fully ripens. The pulp is melting and very juicy. Early to mid-season.

**Dixie Red Muscadine** – Bronze-red male (self-fertile). 17% sugar. Very productive, cold weather tolerant, and vigorous. ‘Dixie Red’ makes a high quality wine. Ripens mid-season. 1-1/8” fruits.

**Early Fry Muscadine** PP#9225 – Bronze female (requires pollinizer). 18% sugar. Produces large berries with excellent flavor and edible skin. Two weeks earlier than “Fry”. Disease resistant, cold hardy.

**Ison Muscadine** – Black male (self-fertile). 19% sugar. Very productive, ripens uniformly in large clusters, early to mid-season. Use for fresh eating, juice, jelly, or wine. The skin is edible and nutritious. Best black pollinizer. 1-1/8” fruit.

**Sugargate Muscadine** PP#5831 – Black female (requires pollinizer). Earliest ripening black muscadine. Excellent flavor, large berries, edible skin. Vigorous and disease resistant. Allow to ripen fully on the vines for best flavor. 1.1/4” fruits.

## Temperate Fruit Trees

### Apples

**Anna** – Heavy crops of sweet, crisp apples that can be eaten fresh or cooked. Stores 2 months in the refrigerator. Bears late June. Self-fruitful, but better production if pollinized by Dorsett Golden. Bears late June. **200 chill hours.**

**Dorsett Golden** – Large, firm, sweet. Golden delicious type. Stores 2 months. Pollinizer for Anna. **100 chill hours.**

**Multi-grafted Apples** – More than one variety is grafted onto each rootstock. These specimens are perfect for smaller gardens where a variety of flavors and an extended harvest season is desired. They are also delightfully ornamental when in bloom and can easily be worked into an existing perennial border as well as the orchard. The varieties are labeled on each tree. Care should be taken to preserve each variety when pruning. Prune more vigorous limbs harder to maintain a balanced specimen.

### Figs

Figs are easy to grow, drought tolerant, and are relatively disease and pest free. They are a wonderful in the garden and are a practical way of creating a large, full screen. You can also plant one as a large, dramatic accent plant. The sculptured trunks & limbs provide winter interest. The added bonus is the delicious fruit in the summer & fall! Most fig trees mature anywhere from 12' x 12' to 20' x 20' & can easily be pruned if absolutely necessary. All figs need sun and a well-drained soil.

**Celeste** – The best for our area. This is the “sugar fig” of heirloom gardens. ‘Celeste’ has a purple-brown skin and a pale strawberry-pink flesh. The medium sized fruit has excellent flavor. Good for fresh eating, and excellent for processing. Ripens June-July. Closed eye. Very cold hardy.

**Japanese Green (aka ‘Verte’ or ‘Green Ischia’)** - Medium sized, thin-skinned fig with strawberry red flesh. The skin is green when ripe which partially camouflages the fruits from the birds. Stocky, rounded fruit with a short neck. Excellent flavor fresh or dried. Small tree even when mature making it a good choice for containers and smaller yards. Mid- to late-season, long harvest. Small, closed eye.

**Little Ruby** – This fig has a natural dwarf habit making it suitable for containers and patio gardens. The ruby-red fruits are bite-sized and sweet. Produces a strong breba crop on the previous season’s shoots. Mature height is approx. 4-feet.

**LSU Gold** - This is one of the very best, hybrid figs from LSU. It is a huge, flattened, bright golden fig up to 1¾ inches in diameter having a drop of "honey" at the small eye. The amber flesh is tender and exceptionally sweet. It is a vigorous grower and makes a fig at every leaf axil. It has a small, slightly open eye but resists splitting and souring.

**LSU Purple** – Glossy reddish to dark purple skin. White flesh with light strawberry pulp. Medium size, closed eye, very cold hardy. Nematode resistant. Released by Louisiana State University in 1991.

**Olympian** – This variety was introduced in 2014, but is actually an heirloom that was growing in a protected spot in Olympia, WA for over 100 years. It is adapted to both cool & warm climates. Olympian produces a huge fig - as large as a tangerine. It has purple skin and a red to purple flesh that is very sweet. Breba crop can ripen as early as May. Olympian is hardy into the teens. The plant is root hardy to 0°F once established and may freeze to the ground at this temperature, but will return in spring and produce a crop the following summer.

**Texas Ever-bearing** - Medium to large, plump fruits with reddish-brown skin and reddish-pink flesh. More upright habit than many varieties. Will bear two crops per year in good growing conditions; late May to June, and late September to early November. Moderately closed eye. Sometimes confused as 'Brown Turkey', but growers note differences in leaf shape, pulp, and growth habit.

**White Marseilles** – Large, lemon-colored, thin-skinned fig with tender, white to light amber flesh. They are very sweet and have high sugar content. An old, reliable variety that was introduced to America from France by Thomas Jefferson. Produces a small breba crop. The eye is open, but very small. Do not over-water while fruit is ripening. (Aka Lattarula Fig, Blanche Fig, Lemon Fig)

### **Mulberries**

**Mulberry, Dwarf** – This easy-to-grow variety is an abundant producer of extremely sweet, medium-sized fruit. Fruit ripens in early summer. It is eaten fresh, used in pies and frozen desserts, and processed in jams & jellies. It will perform well in containers, yielding several crops per year. They can be kept under 2' with moderate pruning. If planted in the ground, this variety should be trained and grown as a large shrub, perhaps reaching 7'. Self-fruitful.

### **Necta-Plums**

**Spice Zee Nectaplum** - White fleshed, nectarine-plum cross. Skin is dark maroon at fruit set, and turns pale pink when ripe. Fully ripe, the fruit is unparalleled in flavor, and both nectarine and plum traits are easily detectable. Tree is quite ornamental with purplish pink bloom in the spring. The new leaves are red and mature into lush green in late summer. Self-fruitful. **200-300 chill hours.**

### **Nectarines**

**Panamint** – Attractive red-skinned, yellow-fleshed freestone. Aromatic, intensely flavored. Nice acid/sugar balance. Dependable, long-time favorite in warm winter climates. Ripens late July, early August. Self-fruitful. **250 chill hours.**

**Snow Queen** - Taste test winner and longtime favorite. Sweet, juicy, early season freestone. Abundant harvest of delicious, melting white-fleshed fruits in late June. Self-fruitful. **250-300 chill hours.**

### **Peaches**

**August Pride** - August Pride is a large size, all-purpose yellow freestone peach. Sweet, aromatic and richly flavored, considered one of the best. It ripens late July through August. Self-fruitful. **300 chill hours.**

**Donut (Stark Saturn)** - Distinctive flat, freestone peaches with tender, white flesh with a mild, sweet flavor. Trees bear heavy crops of peaches that measure 2¼" - 2¾" in diameter. Disease resistant to bacterial leafspot. Self-fruitful. **200 – 300 chill hours.**

**Eva's Pride** – Large, firm, delicious yellow freestone. Self-fruitful. Ripens midway between MayPride & MidPride. **100-200 chill hours.**

**May Pride** – Delicious fruit; larger than other early peaches. The best low chill peach for its season. Ripens in May before Plum Curculio gets to the fruit. Large showy, pink blossoms. Self-fruitful. **175 - 200 chill hours**

**Mid-Pride** -- Good tree vigor. Best yellow freestone for warm winter climate of Houston. Yellow-orange fruit with distinctive red-stripping. Ripens mid to late June. Self-fruitful. **250 chill hours.**

**Tex King:** Large, red-skinned freestone with firm, yellow flesh. Self-fruitful. **400 chill hours.**

**Tropic Snow** -- Excellent tasting (rated 10) white-fleshed freestone. Pale yellow skin with red blush. Large fruit ripens in May. Self-fruitful. **150-200 chill hours.**

**Multi-grafted Peaches** – More than one variety is grafted onto each rootstock. These specimens are perfect for smaller gardens where a variety of flavors and an extended harvest season is desired. They are also delightfully ornamental when in bloom and can easily be worked into an existing perennial border as well as the orchard. The varieties are labeled on each tree. Care should be taken to preserve each variety when pruning.

### **Pears, Asian**

**Hosui Asian Pear** - High-scoring in taste tests: perhaps the tastiest Asian pear. Large, juicy, sweet, flavorful, refreshing, crisp like an apple. Semi self-fruitful. More productive if pollinated by Shinko, Bartlett, or 20th Century. **450 hours.**

### **Pears, European**

**Acres Homes** – An outstanding pear for the Houston area – probably the best pear for the Gulf Coast. Acres Homes is a “found” pear; first seen growing in a backyard in Houston’s Acres Home subdivision. It is a very large fruit with a traditional pear shape and a red blush on the sun-exposed side. Acres Homes is precocious, bearing at about three years. It bears heavily every year. It makes a showy landscape tree with a naturally spreading shape. Acres Homes occasionally gets some fireblight, but it does not seem to descend down the limb. Pollenize with Southern Bartlett, Southern Queen, Meadows, or Tennessee. **300 to 350 chill hours.**

**Southern Bartlett Pear** - Southern Bartlett has a spreading shape, and bears in about 4-5 years. It is unrelated genetically to Bartlett but is similar in flavor. It is a modestly larger tree than Acres Home, but not as big as Tennessee. Its flowering period is about the same as Acres Homes and Southern Queen, but requires a slightly higher chill. It can get some fire blight, perhaps slightly more than Acres Home, but not enough to get excited about. The fruit size is about 70% of Acres Home. Southern Bartlett seems to be more of an alternate year bearer. An outstanding pear for the Houston area. It can be pollinated with Acres Homes, Tennessee, Tennesoi or Southern Queen. **450 chill hours**

**Tenosui Pear** - Great flavor, great blight resistance, excellent storage. Cross between the Tennessee European and the Hosui Asian Pear. Bears in 5 - 6 years. Pollinize with Southern Bartlett, Southern Queen, Tennessee or Acres Homes. **400 chill hours.**

### **Persimmons**

**Chocolate** – Small to medium, oblong fruits with bright red-orange skin. Sweet, spicy flesh with a chocolatey-brown tint. Superb flavor sought by persimmon connoisseurs. Astringent until ripe. Ripens October - November. Self-fruitful. **200 chill hours.**

**Fuyu** – Best known of the non-astringent persimmons. Medium sized, sweet tasting, flat-bottomed, squatty fruit; orange with light orange flesh. Fruit lasts for weeks without refrigeration. Firm and non-astringent. They are sweet and flavorful and crunchy when ripe. Thin to develop good sized fruit. This is a very easy to grow tree that does well in our climate; very hardy, attractive tree. Practically pest free, but without netting, you may lose a lot to wildlife.

**Saijo** - Vigorous, upright and spreading tree that bears consistently each year. Small, elongated, conical fruit. Skin is dull-yellow when mature. Flavor is sweet; ranked among the best by gourmets. Mature fruits are attractive when dried. Cold hardy to -10° F.

**Tanenashi** - Medium to large, cone-shaped, nearly seedless fruits. The brilliant orange-skinned fruits ripen in October. Astringent when first picked - soft, sweet pulp when ripe. Very productive variety that bears at an early age. Beautiful, ornamental tree. **100 - 200 chill hours**

**Weeping** – Believed to be a sport from Tanenashi, which is in itself a highly ornamental variety. Weeping Persimmon should demonstrate the same characteristics as its parent. Medium to large, cone-shaped, nearly seedless fruits. The brilliant orange-skinned fruits ripen in October. Astringent when first picked - soft, sweet pulp when ripe. Very productive variety that bears at an early age. **100 - 200 chill hours**

## Plums

**Beauty** – Sweet, flavorful plum that is more widely adapted than Santa Rosa, and more productive in coastal climates. Reddish-purple skin, fully ripe fruit has red flesh. Harvest in late May. Self-fruitful, but will produce more with another variety planted nearby. Excellent pollinizer for Mariposa. Japanese type. **250 chill hours**

**Burgundy** – Maroon-colored skin and semi-freestone flesh. Sweet, with little or no tartness and a very pleasing, mild flavor. High taste test scores. Prolonged harvest. Tree has a narrow, upright habit. Very productive. Self-fruitful. **400 chill hours**

**Hollywood** – Delicious, medium-sized plum with deep red skin and flesh. Good for fresh eating, jelly and preserves. Highly ornamental tree with deep purple-red foliage, showy pink blooms, and a naturally upright habit. Ripens early in the season. Japanese variety. **300 – 400 chill hours**

## Citrus

### Grapefruits

**Bloomsweet Grapefruit** – Believed to be a pummelo-sour orange cross. Good flavor; sweet-fleshed fruit peels easily. Evergreen, 20' – 30' with a 15' spread. Ripens November – August.

**Cocktail Grapefruit** – This popular variety is actually a cross between a mandarin orange and a pummelo. They have a bright tangerine flavor with a clean, refreshing grapefruit finish. These fruits also lack the acidic bite of regular grapefruit. It is a good juicer – the juice has a distinct grapefruit flavor, without the acid bite.

**Rio Red Grapefruit** - This is the most popular of the red, Texas valley grapefruits. It is a large sized tree that produces at an early age. Fruit is oblong, sweet, seedless, and low in acid. The pulp and flesh is deep red and it has high juice content. Juice is also red.

**Ruby Red** – This is the 1929 original that started the commercial success of red grapefruit in Texas with Rio Red, Ruby Sweet, and Rio Star to follow. Fast growing tree. Fruit is bright yellow when ripe, often with a red blush spot. Flesh is deep red and seedless. Hardy to the upper 20's.

### Kumquats

**Changshou (Fukushu)** - Grown for its large juicy fruit, fragrant white flowers, and fruit that ripens nearly year-round. Pear-shaped fruit is larger than other kumquat varieties and it usually has five or six segments of fruit inside the sweet, thin skin. Eat the skin and all. This is a perfect selection for container growing and makes a beautiful espalier specimen. Tolerates short exposures to 20° F.

### Lemons

**Eureka Pink Variegated** - The leaves are variegated green and white and the rind is striped green and cream making the tree quite ornamental. When fully ripe, the stripes fade, and the rind turns yellow. The flesh is light pink at full maturity, has very few seeds, and nicely acidic. Everything you would want in the landscape and the kitchen!

**Iranian (Persian Sweet) Lemon** - A gourmet quality lemon used in Middle Eastern cooking and as a compliment to teas. It is sweeter than many market lemons, similar to the Meyer Lemon. It is sweetest when first cut, and will sour slightly within an hour of being sliced. The rind is very aromatic and makes a wonderful zest. It has a longer blooming and fruiting period than other lemons, and when mature, may produce two crops a year. The skin is thin making it difficult to ship and store commercially. The best way to have this fine lemon is to grow it yourself!

**Lisbon** – This is the classic yellow lemon with strong acid flavor, thin skin, and high juice content. The tree is beautiful in appearance with dark green leaves, purple tinged blossoms, and bright yellow fruit. Lemons are well-suited to container growing. Vigorous upright, slightly spreading habit – encourage a

bushier habit that is easier to maintain. May produce more than one crop a year with a main crop in late winter to early spring.

**Meyer Improved** – The Meyer lemon tree is considered the world's gourmet lemon. The fruit is sourest in August, and sweetest in January. Although it bears heavily November through April, the tree is everbearing - flowers and fruit are present on the tree at the same time. Meyer grows to about 10' tall and 8'-10' wide and produces heavy crops year after year. Dwarf Meyer grows to about 6'-7' tall and wide. Allowed to ripen on the tree, the rind turns golden. Meyer tolerates temperatures down to 29°F. If Meyer freezes to the ground in hard freeze it will grow and produce again in 18 months. The tree is believed a hybrid between *Citrus limon*, the lemon, and *Citrus reticulata*, the mandarin orange.

**New Zealand Lemonade** – Sweet lemon hybrid of unknown parentage with a pleasant, lemonade-like flavor. There is no bitterness or aftertaste to this fruit. It has been a popular home garden tree in New Zealand and came to the US in 2007. Can set several crops each year.

**Ponderosa** – Ponderosa is a conversation piece for the fruit collector. Thought to be a cross between lemon and citron, the fruit is large and seedy with a thick, bumpy skin. The tree is slow growing and a bit thorny, but it often bears fruits and flowers at the same time. Flowers are a bit large than the typical citrus flower. The juice is nicely acidic, and one fruit can provide sufficient juice for several lemon pies.

### Limes

**Mexican Lime/Key Lime** (Thornless) - The Key Lime also referred to as a Mexican Lime, bears a profuse amount of small, thin-skinned, greenish-yellow limes. This juicy lime is known for its distinctive aroma high-acid content. Flowers and fruits almost continuously. High light requirements, good air circulation, good drainage required. Compact bush with small, blunt-pointed leaves. Winter protection is required.

**Palestinian Sweet Lime (Indian or Caribbean Sweet Lime)** - This nearly seedless variety produces a citrus fruit completely lacking in tartness so it is a lime only because it looks like one, not because it tastes like one. The juice has low sugar content, but tastes sweet nevertheless. Some don't like it because it is low in acidic flavor or even insipid, but it is juicy and nutritious and perfect for those who are looking for low acid citrus. This variety is hardier than common limes.

**Persian (Tahiti or Bearrs)** – This seedless variety is the most commonly cultivated lime for commercial purposes – the market lime. Originally thought to be a cross between a Key Lime and either a lemon or a citron. The tree is nearly thornless. Usually sold green, it will actually turn yellow will fully ripe. Long storage on the tree and good shelf life after harvest. Slightly less acidic than the Key Lime and has nicely aromatic zest.

**Thai Lime Leaf (Kaffir/Makrut)** – Native to tropical Indonesia, the Thai Lime Leaf is grown chiefly for the fragrant leaves, which are used in Southeast Asian cuisine. The small, bumpy fruit is also used, mostly for the zest. Grows 5'-8' in a container, 15' in the ground.

**Philippine Lime/Calamondin** – This decorative little tree is very showy when grown in a container and used as a patio plant. It does very well in containers, on its own roots, indoors and out. The fruit resembles a very small, slightly flattened orange. When ripe, the rind is very easy to peel. Calamondins have a wonderfully tart, tender pulp that can be eaten fresh, or used in cooking. Its wonderfully sophisticated flavor is used for fish & chicken dishes, salad dressings and marmalades.

### Mandarins

**Clementine (Algerian Tangerine)** - An early season mandarin producing sweet, juicy, fine flavored fruit that will hold on the tree for months. Easily peeled, highly ornamental fruits are held to the outside of the tree. Seedless and almost thornless. Moderate grower to 10 to 12 feet tall or can be pruned to the desired height. Fairly good freeze tolerance.

**Texas Honey Mandarin (Honey Tangerine)** – Easy to peel. It is very sweet juicy, and somewhat seedy. Fruit is small and slightly flat in shape – gourmet quality. Dwarf tree, making it good for container.

Harvest is late October. Thought to be a cross between a tangerine and a sweet orange. Cold hardy to the mid-20's once established.

**Kishu Seedless** - This tiny mandarin is one of the first to ripen in the fall and holds on the tree well into late winter. Usually no bigger than a golf ball, they are like eating citrus candy. As the name implies, they are totally seedless, delicious, and super easy to peel.

**Page** – Page is a cross between a Minneola tangelo and a Clementine mandarin. The flesh is deep orange, tender and juicy, with a rich flavor and a few seeds. The tree is upright, moderately vigorous, productive and nearly thornless. The skin is medium thin, pebbly and easy to peel. Early ripening variety.

**Ponkan** - An upright and vigorous grower which attains a medium size of 15' at maturity. Can be pruned at any height. Fruits are oblate in shape and have an easy peel "zip" skin. Orange flesh is tender, juicy with a mild pleasant flavor. Aromatic.

### Oranges

**Marrs Early Orange** - Marrs Early Orange does not grow terribly large, but sets large quantities of very sweet, medium-sized fruit with low acidity. Marrs begins producing when relatively young, and the fruit is virtually seedless unless grown close to a pollinizer. Marrs attains maturity in early October, sometimes in late September, primarily because of its low acidity. Marrs is a navel orange budsport grown for the fresh market, but is relatively unknown outside Texas.

**Pineapple Orange** – An older cultivar, found in a Florida grove in 1870. Medium to large fruits that are round and pineapple scented. This is an excellent juicing orange. Early to mid-season. Tree has an upright habit and is thornless.

**Cara Cara Pink Navel Orange** – This navel orange has a flesh color closer to that of a blood orange. The flavor has a hint of grapefruit with the typical excellent sweetness of a navel orange. Will withstand mild freezes, but protect from a hard (26°F) freeze.

**Navel** - Characterized by growth of a second fruit at the apex which protrudes and looks sort of like a human navel. Long growing season makes them very popular. Meaty flesh, thick rind, easy to peel. Segments separate easily and are seedless. The navel is the hardiest of the oranges with a fruit that is medium to large in size. It is an attractive and heavily bearing tree with fruit ripening in the fall. Hardy to about 24° F. **N-33 & Washington Varieties**

**Ujukitsu** - Sweet, very tasty mild orange-lemon flavors. A unique tasting fruit that you will never forget. A cross between a lemon and an orange, it is sometimes called a sweet lemon. It looks a bit like one, but the taste is not lemony. It is more like an "orange with a bright twist". It is also called the "Lemonade Fruit". Quite cold hardy. It has a slightly weeping habit, but can be pruned into a nice canopy.

**Valencia** – This is the sweet orange famous for juicing. The tree has a somewhat compact habit. The fruit has very few seeds and holds well on the tree for a long time. Last year's oranges can still be on the tree when the spring bloom begins!

### Oranges, Blood

**Moro Blood Orange** – Juicy, medium sized fruit with a very distinctive aroma. Nearly seedless and has red to pink pulp, depending in the number of cool nights! It bears this fruit in clusters near the end of its branches. Tends to bear heavily in alternate years. Moderately cold hardy!

**Tarocco Blood Orange** – Medium to large fruit with smooth, thin, orange rind, sometimes with a red blush. It produces rich-flavored fruit with overtones of berry! This is one of the finest tasting oranges. Internal red color may vary from year to year. This orange is sweet, easy to peel and has few seeds. Can have a tendency to be thorny.



**Vainiglia Sanguigno Blood Orange** - An acidless sweet orange with a pink flesh pigmented by lycopene. The tree is small to medium-sized at maturity with a round form. The round fruit is medium in size, seedy, with a smooth orange rind of medium thickness. Because of its lack of acidity, the fruit can be eaten as early as late fall or early winter. The fruit is very juicy and is especially prized in the Mediterranean and Southwest Asia.

### **Pummelos**

**Chandler** - A relative new comer to the pummelo family; developed by crossing a Siamese Pink pummelo and a Siamese Sweet pummelo. This hybrid blends the best of both color and flavor. The rind is thick, and bright yellow with an occasional pink blush. The flesh ranges from light to dark pink, is moderately juicy and nicely sweet. This fruit is easily segmented. They are also an excellent source of antioxidant flavonoids and vitamin C.

**Nam Roi** - Popular seedless variety from Viet Nam, where it is called the "Honey Pummelo". White-fleshed, sweet, easily separates from the skin.

**Valentine** - This beautiful pummelo got its name in part because it ripens on Valentine's Day. It is heart-shaped when it is cut in cross-section and the flesh is a beautiful rosy color. 'Valentine' is a relatively new introduction from the breeding program at UC Riverside. It has pummelo, Dancy mandarin, and Ruby Blood Orange in its parentage. It is easy to peel, which comes from its mandarin parent, and ruby colored flesh from the blood orange. It has a complex flavor and is very low acid.

### **Satsuma Mandarins**

Satsumas are the most cold-hardy of the mandarin family. They are generally cold hardy to the low 20s. A full grown Satsuma makes a large rounded "tree" about 15' by 18', but they can easily be kept much smaller with pruning or if they are on the dwarfing 'Flying Dragon' Trifoliolate rootstock. In the Houston and surrounding areas they are wonderful evergreen "trees" or large shrubs. Some home owners plant a variety of satsumas along their fence and prune them into tall evergreen screens that produce wonderful crops of citrus from late September into December. There are early season varieties, mid-season and late season so one can have delicious, juicy mandarins for up to 4 months in the fall! It is very important that any mandarin is picked just as yellow or orange coloring begins to appear on the skin. Do not wait until they are fully orange or you will have lost the best flavor and juiciness. Satsumas peel easily and are normally seedless. They grow in full sun or light shade and need a moist but well-drained bed.

**Brown Select Satsuma** – Medium-sized, bright orange fruit, often with a slightly bumpy rind. Extremely sweet, sprightly flavor. Seedless and very easy to peel; breaks into segments. Cold tolerance that extends to the mid-20s. Good patio plant.

**Dobashi-Beni Satsuma** - A great, early producing Satsuma mandarin with a mild, sweet, seedless, zipper-skinned fruit that is easy to peel. It is very cold hardy for a citrus.

**Miho** – Large fruit with very good flavor with few seeds. Early maturing, ripens by Thanksgiving. More upright tree than other Satsumas.

**Owari Satsuma** - The original heirloom Satsuma and still hard to beat – considered the gold standard. Introduced to the US from Japan over 50 years ago. It has a sweet flavor, low acidity, and a very delicate fruit. Hardy to 22° F or lower. Seeds rarely present. Tree is moderately vigorous, but slow-growing; medium-small, spreading and drooping; very productive. Start tasting in October, and ripe into December.

**Seto Satsuma** - 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.

**Silverhill Satsuma** - An early ripening Satsuma; October to November. Medium size, slightly oblate fruit that is easy to peel and section. Abundant juice and high sugar content. Vigorous, upright tree that is very productive. This variety is especially cold hardy. It has been observed to withstand 15° F with only minor defoliation.

**Xie Shan Satsuma** - Xie Shan is an early ripening Satsuma that has the rich flavor of the late ripening varieties. The fruit is seedless, easy to peel, and has a super sweet flavor. The tree doesn't weep like most Japanese Satsuma varieties, and will fit into tighter spots in small gardens. Fruit ripens October to December.

### **Tangelos/Tangerines**

**Orlando Tangelo** - The tree is moderately vigorous and slightly more cold resistant than Minneola. The fruit is almost round or slightly flattened with flesh that is orange, juicy, and sweet; and a rind that is orange, thin, slightly textured, and not easily peeled. It ripens November to January. Orlando's blossoms are self-incompatible, and must be pollinated by a suitable pollinizer to ensure satisfactory fruit set. Cross-pollinated fruits are seedy.

**Sunburst Tangerine** – Medium-sized fruits with excellent dark orange color. The skins are thin and relatively easy to peel. Ripens mid-November to late December. Tree is upright & thornless. Moderately cold-hardy. Sunburst's blossoms are self-incompatible, and must be pollinated by a suitable pollinizer to ensure satisfactory fruit set. Cross-pollinated fruits are seedy. Orlando is a good pollinizer.

### **Semi-Tropical, Mediterranean or Mild-Temperate Fruits**

Note: Tropical fruits will be available weather permitting. They will also be available at the Eastside Farmer's Market, 3000 Richmond Avenue, Houston, TX from 8:00am – 12:00pm in one weekend in each month of February & March.

### **Avocados, Mexican & Semi-hardy hybrids**

Avocados are beautiful trees in the landscape. Their large, glossy leaves and naturally pyramidal shape are distinctly favorable attributes. Clusters of pale green, unremarkable flowers appear in February. Fruit ripens in fall. Avocados need protection from damaging winds, sunburn, and frost for the first few years. Once your tree begins to mature, it will tolerate any expected Houston winter. Requires full sun, adequate moisture and good drainage.

**Arizona** – Called "the Unicorn of the Desert", this variety has been the subject of Avocado folklore. It is considered a "Haas" type that is dark green with brown or black speckled skin. Hardy to at least 24° F, although it is reported to have survived down to the high teens.

**Don Juan** (Aravaipa) – A nice sized avocado with speckled green-brown skin and exceptional quality flesh. Hardy to the mid-teens. 25' tree at maturity.

**Mexicola** – Tall, spreading, vigorous tree. Pear-shaped fruits are purplish black with paper-thin skin. The flesh is high quality. Ripens in September. Recovers rapidly from a freeze. May defoliate at 20° F.

**Mexicola Grande** - Tall and spreading tree. The fruit is 15% - 25% larger than Mexicola and somewhat rounder in shape. The skin is paper-thin and purple-black. Good seed to flesh ratio with high oil content and a rich, nutty flavor. Hardy to about 18° F.

**Pancho/Poncho** – A high quality Mexican avocado that produces medium-large green fruit. This thin-skinned variety can be eaten just like an apple, skin and all. Besides producing wonderful fruit, this is one of the most beautiful of all the Mexican avocado trees. It has dark green, glossy foliage and has a beautiful pyramidal shape somewhat like the Southern Magnolia. One of the earlier maturing varieties. Cold hardy to at least 20°F.

### **Bananas**

**Ice Cream (or Blue Java)** - The Ice Cream banana is a very fast growing, reaching a full height of 12 to 14 feet in as little as nine months. The plant is a vibrant green color with very large leaves. Fruit produced is very sweet and creamy. The Ice Cream banana's fruit has a bluish color while developing, hence the nickname Blue Java.

## Dragon Fruits

Dragon Fruits are a fruit bearing, climbing member of the cactus family. They are a dramatic addition to the garden with snaking limbs, giant white flowers, and brightly-colored, decorative fruits that bear scales like a mythical dragon. They can be grown on trellises or poles and will produce multiple cycles of fruit within the year. Protect from frost when young and from prolonged frosts or freezes when mature. Full sun to light shade; well-drained soils. Can be grown in large containers.

**Purple Haze** - A large sweet fruit with relatively few seeds. The fruit weighs up to two pounds, and has a pleasant grape-kiwi like flavor. Can be eaten fresh or juiced. Red outside and dark pink inside. Self-fruitful.

## Gingers, Edible

**Baby Ginger** – This ginger it has the same great flavor for cooking as the rhizomes usually found in stores, but it does not have the tough outer skin or the fibrous interior. The creamy-white and pink rhizomes can be prepared without peeling. It can be used in every way you have used market ginger – stir fry, pickled, candied. It can be chopped and frozen for use year round.

**Turmeric** (*Curcuma longa*) – A ginger relative that is grown much the same way as ornamental gingers. The plant will grow to 3-feet with 5" wide, bright green pleated leaves. Turmeric likes full sun to light shade and regular moisture in a well-drained soil. Harvest the rhizomes when the plant begins to yellow as the day length shortens. Reserve several tubers for replanting.

## Olives

Olives grow best in full sun and require excellent drainage – raised beds are recommended.

**Arbequina** - This beautiful 12' - 15' tree originated in Spain. Earliest to bear fruit, usually at 3 years. The small, dark brown to black fruit has excellent flavor and is used for oil or table fruit. Requires excellent drainage and thrives in long, hot summers. Pest resistant. Ripens in mid fall – November. Frost resistant; hardy to 22° F - 25° F. Self-fruitful, but better when pollinized with Arbosana.

## Pomegranates

Luscious jewel of a fruit! Packed inside are hundreds of ruby-red arils (sweet, tart, gem-like juice sacs). Eat arils whole, seeds & all – add to salads & other dishes. High in vitamin C and an excellent source of antioxidants. Easy to grow and self-fruitful. Maintain at any height with summer pruning.

**Kandahar Early** – An old-world variety from Afghanistan. Deep red skin and arils. Sweet flavor with just a touch of tartness. Ripens in September. Self-fruitful.

**Pink Satin** – Produces medium to large fruit with light pink, edible seeds. The light-colored juice is non-staining! Vigorous growth; can be trained as a shrub or a tree and kept to your preferred height with summer pruning. Self-fertile. **150 – 200 chill hours**

**Red Silk** – This UC Davis introduction is a heavy bearer of large fruit with red juice and a delicious grenadine flavor. It has a pleasing balance of acid and sweetness. Exterior is red. Great acid-sugar balance, berry flavor, seeds are firm but edible. A semi-dwarf variety that is suitable for containers, hedgerows and patio gardens. **150 – 200 chill hours.**

**Texas Pink** - Deciduous with dark green and glossy leaves, make this variety an excellent landscaping tree in addition to producing excellent fruit. It grows best in full sun, adapts well to any soil, and is self-fruitful. The skin of this pomegranate is pink while the arils are ruby red - a beautiful contrast of colors. The fruit can grow up to 4 inches in diameter.

## Miscellaneous Tropicals

**Cherry of the Rio Grande** (*Eugenia aggregata*) - One of the most popular warm climate substitutes for the traditional 'Prunus' cherry. This easy to grow variety offers the added interest of dark green, glossy leaves and a peeling bark. It can be grown with very little maintenance as a 15' shrub or be trained as a small tree. It has white flowers which can bloom for several months.

**Coffee, Arabian** (*Coffea arabica*) – An attractive evergreen bush or small tree with glossy, dark green leaves. Fragrant white flowers will bloom in May - June. Coffee “cherries” are ripe when fully red. Normally reaching 10' – 15' tall and wide, the tree can be maintained at about 6-feet for ease of winter protection. Coffee prefers filtered sun. Provide additional shade when temperatures exceed 80°F. Coffee requires a rich, organic growing medium that is moist, but well-drained. It will produce 2 – 3 years from planting (3 – 4 years old). Self-fertile. Will not tolerate freezing temperatures - protect at 30°F.

**Loquat** - Small evergreen tree with large, long serrated leaves. Fruiting differs from other plants, over-wintering on the tree and ripening in the spring. Fall flowers fill the outside air with their fragrance. 1"-2" fruits are juicy with a mild, sweet flavor, fragrant flowers. Can be adapted to container culture. Hardy in a sheltered spot to about 15°F.

**Moringa** (*Moringa oleifera*) – Moringa is cultivated for its edible leaves, seeds, and pods. The edible seed pods are known as “drumsticks”. The root is said to be edible – it is used like horseradish – but there is controversy about the safety of ingesting the root. Only the leaves are recommended for daily consumption. They are usually dried, powdered, and used in smoothies or soups. Moringa is noted for being high in nutrients and antioxidants. The tree is also valued for its ornamental qualities. It has lacey, bright green leaves and pretty, creamy pale yellow flowers. Moringa grows very quickly. It can be maintained at any convenient height. Full sun, well-drained soil. Root hardy, or plant in a “plunged” container and lift for winter storage. Moringa can also be grown from saved seed or from cuttings.

**Starfruits or Carambola** (*Averrhoa carambola*) - Starfruits have a sweet citrus-like flavor that is both delicious and refreshing. They are eaten fresh and can be made into juice. The fruit is very attractive when sliced crosswise for a perfect star shape, and it is often used in fruit salads and as a garnish. The five-cornered or winged fruit is yellow when ripe and has translucent flesh. The skin is very crisp and thin and is also eaten. The center of the fruit contains a few small seeds. An attractive ornamental tree with small delicate leaves that can be kept in a 15 gallon pot or planted in a well protected place. The tree can grow to 25-feet, but can easily be pruned to 6-feet. Tiny pinkish flowers bloom in Spring, early Summer or Fall. *Protect for the first two years, then cold hardy to the high 20's for short periods. Plant where protected from wind.*

**Passion Fruit, Novak's** – This large vine makes delicious, edible passion fruit. The fruit are green then turn purple when they ripen. The pulp inside is yellowish-orange, sweet, aromatic and delicious. The exotic looking flowers are white with a purple tinged center. Normally root-hardy in Houston winters. Passion fruit puree is a fun addition to many dishes, such as smoothies or cocktails.