

Cultural Information- Citrus
(SIT-rus)

Hardy to Zone 9 and higher for outdoors.
Full sun, grows to 1-3' in container, minimum temperature 50°, blooming season depends on species.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°. During the winter; however, temperatures above 60° are preferred in order for the plant to absorb nutrients and maintain active growth. Exception: The Citrus aurantifolia “Key Lime” is a tropical citrus and requires that indoor temperatures be maintained above 60°. It will not tolerate temperatures below that.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings. It's best to grow in a clay pot, which will help with increasing air exchange to the root system. When repotting, don't over-pot. Keep them a little under-potted creates a healthier environment for the root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Go easy on the fertilizer: ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water every two weeks. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 10-10-10 or 7-9-5. Excessive fertilization can create difficulties in culture, so it's best to err on the lean side.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune young plants to encourage branching. This will help create a bushy plant and stronger limbs to hold the heavy fruit. The best time to prune is late spring after flowering and when in active growth.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	For the most part, citrus is not highly susceptible to insects. However, they will attract scale, mealy bugs and mites if infected plants are nearby. Citrus plants in general are susceptible to root disease, but following the water recommendations and keeping temperatures no lower than 60° will help negate the problem.
<u>Comments:</u>	All of our varieties have thorns, which can be removed at no harm to the plant.

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