

Cultural Information – Eriobotrya
(er-ee-oh-BOT-ree-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure is best.
<u>Temperature:</u>	It is hardy to zone 8 or even zone 7 and can take temperatures down into the teens.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Tolerant of wide fluctuation in relative humidity
<u>Watering:</u>	In containers allow the soil to dry some between waterings. Visual surface dryness and then a through soaking is the best rule. They are quite drought tolerant both in containers and when established in the ground.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate levels of fertilizer. In containers, feed during active growth with a water soluble balanced feed or top dress with an organic granule fertilizer. Use a low balanced fertilizer no higher than 15-15-15. Discontinue in late summer to allow the growth to harden off. In garden plantings little fertilizer is need once established.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Plants can be pruned after fruiting is complete if needed.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few insects bother Loquats, however, they do have susceptibility to root diseases when grown in containers. Be sure to grow in clay pot and water only when visually dry. Also go easy on the fertilizer as that can aggravate root disease issues.
<u>Comments</u>	Loquats are productive fruiting trees that can tolerate subfreezing temperatures. When grown in pots the dwarf form or selected grafted clones will fruit earlier. Generally plants need to get to 4-5' before they are fruiting well. Selective pruning can be done to manage size as they are quite vigorous. Root diseases are the greatest challenge in container culture. In the north where temperatures go below 10 degrees, plants can be wintered over in unheated structures as long as there is some light available and the root system is protected from freezing and thawing.