Mangoes

First tended in India 4,000 years ago, the mango is the oldest cultivated fruit tree in the world. Grown in the tropics and warm subtropics, this tasty and nutritious fruit is becoming increasingly popular in the States.

Mangoes are self-pollinating and bear fruit in 1-4 years, depending upon the size of the mango tree at purchase.

Selecting a Mango and Planting Site

Plant your mango trees with adequate space for growth, maximum exposure to sunlight, good air circulation, and adequate irrigation and drainage.

Mangoes are not cold-hardy and will need protection during a freeze. Temperatures of 40°F will damage mango blossoms. Mature trees may tolerate 25°F for a few hours with minor damage, but young trees may die below 30°F. Ideally, mangoes should be planted to the south and west of your home, generally the warmest spots in your yard.

The most important factors to consider when choosing a mango are the presence or absence of fiber, variations in taste, size of tree and fruit, time of harvest, and resistance to insects and fungal diseases.

Planting Instructions

Mangoes are tolerant of most soil conditions, but do best in improved soil with good drainage. If your yard stays wet during the rainy season, it is very important to raise up the soil (a berm) and plant your tree on it. The key to preparing the soil is to make it porous, yet still have water holding capabilities.

Backfill the hole with 1 part organic matter—such as our <u>Rockledge Gardens Planting Mix</u>—to 1 to 2 parts existing soil (use more Planting Mix in sandy soil). Add a few cups of <u>Bio-Tone Starter Plus</u> to stimulate root growth for quicker establishment.

The planting hole should be wider, but no deeper, than the rootball. When planted, the tree should be at the same level it was in the pot.

Form a ridge of soil 2-3 inches high around the margin of the hole to serve as a reservoir when watering. Eliminate air pockets by using a gentle stream of water.

Watering

Weeks 1 & 2 water daily with 2 gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter. In cooler weather, water every other day.

Weeks 3 & 4 water every other day (twice a week in cooler weather).

During periods of drought, water mature trees with an inch of water weekly.

Mango trees should not be watered with water from wells containing 2,300 ppm or more of salt.

Fertilization

One month after planting apply **Espoma Citrus-tone** or **Sunniland Citrus** fertilizer 3 times per year (March, May & September). Use 1/2lb (approximately 1 cup) per foot of tree height (max of 5 lbs per application for mature trees). Scatter the fertilizer evenly around the trunk of the tree to the dripline.

Do not use fertilizer spikes!

Spray with **Maxicrop Liquid Seaweed** at least twice a year in March & November to boost the immune system of the tree, making it more resistant to insect and fungal problems.

Never use "weed & feed" products near your tree!

Pests & Disease

Drought-stressed, badly planted, and improperly fertilized plants are more susceptible to pest and disease problems than well-nourished plants. *Anthracnose* (small dark round spots that occur on the leaves) is the most common fungal disease seen in mangoes - usually at the start of the rainy season. 2-3 weekly applications of **Dithane** should stop the disease from further spread.

Warning

Some people react to the skin of mango fruit like they do to poison ivy. Some react to the leaves. A very unlucky few are even allergic to the fruit itself!



Variety Name	Season	Size (lbs)	Skin Color/Blush	Production	Fiber	Growth	Notes
Alphonso	June-July	1/2-3/4	Golden yellow	Very good	None	Vigorous	Outstanding sweetness and flavor
Bailey's Marvel	July-August	34-11/2	Yellow/Pink	Good	Little	Moderately Fast	Highly aromatic; slight orange flavor
Beverly	August-Sept	1-2	Yellow	Good	Little	Mod/Spreading	Rich flavor
Bombay	July	3⁄4-1½	Yellow/Red/Pink	Very good	Little	Very fast	Excellent eaten fresh or in chutneys and mango salsa.
Carrie	June-July	34-1	Yellow/no blush	Fair	None	Vigorous/rounded/ dense	Semi-dwarf; highly desirable; compact canopy; rich, sweet and spicy flavor; anthracnose resistant
Cogshall	June-July	3⁄4-1	Yellow-orange/Red	Good	Little	Mod/Semi-dwarf	Rich and spicy; soft lemon-yellow flesh; dense tree
Dot	June-August	¾-1	Yellow/pink blush	Good	Little	Mod/med open	Aromatic, sweet and delicious; extended harvest
Duncan	July-August	1-1½	Yellow/no blush	Good	None	Vigorous/open	Excellent taste; resistant to anthracnose; soft
East Indian	July-August	3⁄4-11⁄4	Green-yellow; red blush	Good	Lots	Vigorous	Rich, spicy, and aromatic; firm orange flesh; hint of coconut
Edward	June-July	34-1	Yellow/pink to red	Fair but consistent	None	Vigorous/dense	Sweet, spicy, and rich; juicy and melting; one of the finest Florida mangoes
Fairchild	June-July	¥2-¾	Pale yellow	Good	None	Vigorous	Flesh is firm, juicy, and aromatic; this "patio" variety can be grown in a container to about 10 feet tall
Florigon	June-July	1⁄2-1	Yellow	Good	Little	Vigorous	Excellent quality; outstanding taste; small seed

Glenn	June-July	3⁄4-1	Yellow/orange-red	Heavy	Little	Moderately fast	Rich and spicy flavor; strong, pleasant aroma
Golden Nugget	July-August	34-1	Golden yellow	Heavy	Little	Vigorous/open	Mild, sweet flavor; an outstanding mango (Edward seedling)
Graham	June-August	1-1½	Golden yellow	Good	Little	Moderately fast	Especially aromatic; "condo" mango
Haden	June-July	¾-1½	Yellow/red	Consistentl y Heavy	Lots	Very fast/spreading	Firm and juicy flesh; good to excellent eating
Ice Cream	June-July	1⁄4-3⁄4	Green/yellow	Good	Little	Semi-dwarf	Sweet, rich flavor
Irwin	June	¾-1	Yellow/red	Excellent	None	Moderate/open	Sweet and mild flavor; juicy; fruit often in clusters
Jakarta	June-August	11⁄4-13⁄4	Yellow/orange-red	Heavy	Little	Vigorous/dense	Rich, spicy, flavor; slightly resinous
Julie	July	1/2-3/4	Pink/Yellow	Good	Little	Slow, dwarf	Dwarf; unique "coconutty" flavor
Keitt	Aug-Sept	¾-4	Yellow/pink to red	Heavy	Little	Moderate/open	Firm, leading late commercial mango in Florida; good anthracnose resistance; sweet mild flavor
Kent	July-August	1-2½	Yellow/red	Fair	Little	Vigorous/large, upright/compact	Considered one of the best-tasting Florida mangoes; rich, sweet flavor; weak but pleasant aroma
Lancetilla	August-Sept	2-5	Blood red	Good	None	Vigorous semi-dwarf	Tree can be maintained at 10 feet; firm, juicy, sweet fruit
Lemon Meringue	June-July	1/2-3/4	Yellow/orange blush	Good	None	Medium-size tree	Tart yet sweet with lemony aroma; very fungus resistant
Mallika	June-July	¾-1	Yellow/pink	Very good	None	Vigorous	Tree can be kept small; sweet and honey-like
Manila	June-July	1⁄4-3⁄4	Green-yellow/pink	Good	Varies	Vigorous/open	Rich, spicy, and sweet; juicy; large upright tree

Miracle (Choc-anon)	Nov-Jan	3⁄4-1	Golden yellow	Good	None	Vigorous/dense	A winter mango! Sweet and firm; tree is very vigorous
Nam Doc Mai	June-July	3⁄4-11⁄2	Green-yellow/non e	Fair	None	Vigorous/dense	Unique flavor; rich, spicy, and very sweet
Okrung Tong	June-August	1/ ₄ -1/ ₂	Greenish-yellow	Heavy	Yes	Moderate/dense	Mild flavor and very sweet; can be eaten when green
Palmer	July-September	1-1¾	Yellow-orange/red	Good	Little	Moderate/light	Mild and aromatic flavor; fruit colors red very early
Phillippine	June-July	1/2-3/4	Yellow/no blush	Good	Little	Vigorous/dense	Unique flavor; rich, aromatic and medium-sweet
Pickering	June	34-11/2	Yellow	Very good	None	Bushy/compact dwarf	Can be grown in a pot at 6'; firm flesh w/ a hint of coconut
Rosigold	March-June	¾-1	Yellow/red blush	Very good	None	Semi-dwarf	Rich, aromatic and sweet; can be kept in a pot at 6 to 8 feet
Southern Blush	July	3⁄4-2	Red/yellow	Good	Little	Moderate	Long shelf life; very juicy
Spirit of '76	June-July	3⁄4-1	Yellow/dark red	Good	None	Mod/spreading	Rich, aromatic and sweet flavor; soft, juicy flesh
Springfels	July-August	1¾-3	Yellow/dark red	Good	Little	Mod/compact	Rich, aromatic and sweet flavor; firm and juicy
Tebow	July-August	1	Yellow and pink	Excellent	None	Vigorous/large	Cross between a Kent and an Edwards results in a heavy producing tree with superb fiberless fruit
Tommy Atkins	June	∛-2	Yellow/dark red	Heavy/cons istent	Med	Vigorous/dense	Firm and juicy; mild and sweet flavor; commercially important; highly anthracnose resistant

Valencia Pride	July	³⁄4-2	Yellow/pink-red	Med-heavy	Little	Vigorous/open	Mild and sweet; firm, melting, juicy, strong aroma
ValCarrie	June-July	¾-1¼	Yellow with pink blush	Good	None	Vigorous/upright	Cross of Carrie and Valencia Pride; has best qualities of both; excellent flavor; very aromatic
Van Dyke	July-August	½-1¼	Yellow/bright red	Неаvy	Little	Moderate/open/la rge canopy	Rich, spicy, and sweet flavor with a strong aroma; good resistance to anthracnose; firm, melting and juicy
Zill	June-July	¹ / ₂ - ³ / ₄	Yellow/dark red	Good	None	Vigorous/open	Mild and sweet flavor with a strong aroma; juicy