UCCE MASTER GARDENER ADVICE TO GROW BY WORKSHOP

JUNE 19, 2010

Selecting the right subtropical tree for your climate: Some varieties are more tolerant of our “cooler” conditions during the foggy summer months. Varieties that require a lot of heat may never ripen. Rule of thumb – the more acid in the fruit, the less cold tolerant.

CITRUS VARIETIES - see last page for San Luis Obispo County

Citrus for the Home Garden in Contra Costa County <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/filelibrary/434/32989.pdf>

AVOCADO VARIETIES – see last page for San Luis Obispo County

California Rare Fruit Growers <http://www.crfg.org/pubs/ff/avocado.html>

Select the best location in your yard and recognize micro-climates that occur even in small areas:





**To protect your trees from frost.**

Frost/Freeze Protection for Horticultural Crops – <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/hil/hil-705.html>

Frost Protection for Citrus and Other Subtropicals <http://ucanr.org/freepubs/docs/8100.pdf>

**To plant the tree and suggested spacings:**

Avocados: [http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/Fruits\_&\_Nuts/Avocado/](http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/Fruits_%26_Nuts/Avocado/)

Citrus: [http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/Fruits\_&\_Nuts/Citrus/](http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/Fruits_%26_Nuts/Citrus/)

Water needs and irrigation of citrus and avocado:

 Mature trees in warmest months will need 60 gallons of water/week.

Watering citrus: <http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/CULTURAL/citruswatering.html>

Citrus for the Home Garden in Contra Costa County <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/filelibrary/434/32989.pdf>

Watering avocado http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/CULTURAL/avocadowater.html

Weed Management for citrus and avocado

.Both citrus and avocado are very shallow rooted – only hand weeding and mulch underneath trees

 Weed identification and control measures: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.weeds.html>

**Fertilizer requirements for citrus and avocado**

**Suggested application rates of nitrogen -** Divide into 2 or 3 applications

* **1st year**: 1 tablespoon nitrogen fertilizer 3 times per year, per tree.
* **2nd year**: 0.25 lb actual nitrogen per tree
* **3rd year**: 0.5lb actual nitrogen per tree
* **4th year**: 0.75lb actual nitrogen per tree
* **5th year**:1 lb actual nitrogen each year

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1 pound of actual nitrogen equals about 5 lb of ammonium sulfate (21% nitrogen) per year, or 100 lb of composted cow manure each year. Organic fertilizers such as manure, bloodmeal, etc. could be applied in the fall under the tree canopy

**Pest identification, including methods of reducing pest populations using the least toxic methods.**

Avocados - http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/avocados.html

Citrus - http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/GARDEN/FRUIT/citrus.html

Subtropical Fruits for San Luis Obispo County

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| SUBTROPICAL FRUITS | Coastal Gardens | Inland Gardens |
| AVOCADO |  | Gwen | † | Duke |
|  |  | Hass or Lamb Hass | † | Jim |
|  |  | Fuerte | † | Stewart |
|  |  | Reed |  |  |
|  |  | Pinkerton |  |  |
|  |  | Wurtz (Littlecado) or Holiday are dwarf varieties |  |  |
| LEMON |  | Eureka | † | Lisbon |
|  |  | Variegated Pink | † | Improved Meyer |
| LIME |  | Bearss |  |  |
| MANDARIN |  | Tango | † | Fairchild |
|  |  | Pixie | † | Gold Nugget |
|  |  | Kinnow (seeded) |  | Owari Satsuma |
|  |  | Gold Nugget |  | Dancy (seeded |
| ORANGE |  | Robertson Navel |  | Washington Navel (protected areas) |
|  |  | Valencia MidKnight |  | Skaggs Bonanza |
|  |  | Trovita (indoors too!) |  | Cara Cara |
|  |  |  |  | Lane Late |
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| **GUAVA (FEIJOA)** |  | Coolidge (pineapple type) |  |  |
|  |  | Cattley (strawberry type) |  |  |

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