



PEACHES AND NECTARINES

Planting Instructions

Plant peaches and nectarines in full sun in a very well-drained soil. Semi-dwarf trees should be planted 12 feet apart, and allow 15 feet between rows. Plant with the top of the root mass just at soil level with enough soil mounded to cover the roots leaving 1 inch between the graft and the soil level.

Feeding

Peach and nectarine trees benefit from complete granular or spike fertilizer. Feed them in fall or winter. Do not overfeed with nitrogen. Fertilizers with half as much nitrogen as phosphorus are good; Fertilizer spikes are an easy and efficient way to fertilize.

Pruning

Young trees should be pruned hard their first year to encourage bud development. As they age, prune to develop a good strong scaffold and an open, spreading habit. Remove older center sprouts and older fruiting wood on older trees. For finer details consult a good pruning book.

Disease & Pest Control

Peach Leaf Curl, a fungus, is a major disease of these trees; however, they are also subject to infection with other problems, such as bacterial blight and Cherry Shothole. Insects that affect peaches and nectarines include scale, mites, and aphids which may reduce yield and increase stress. Peach Tree Borer can kill weak and young trees. Timed preventative sprays provide the best protection against most of these pests. See our Spray Schedule for more details.

Note: Peach and Nectarine trees also have beautiful ornamental value with sweet scented spring blossoms and gorgeous fall color and are loved by hummingbirds and butterflies.

VARIETIES

Peaches and nectarines are self-fertile and do not require multiple trees for fruit production.

PEACHES

Charlotte – White-fleshed, freestone peach that ripens in late August. Very resistant to Peach Leaf Curl. Great variety for our climate.

Elberta - Ripens September. Large yellow, crimson splashed peach. Yellow flesh is sweet, juicy and firm. Great fresh or frozen and famous for excellent canning peach.

Frost – Early variety, ripens in July to early August. Firm sweet peaches are great fresh, canned or frozen. Reasonably resistant to leaf curl, however it still needs to be sprayed when young.

Oregon Curl-Free – Semi-freestone peach with good fungal disease resistance. Large peaches are sweet and juicy.





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Red Haven – Early variety, ripens early August. Firm, sweet yellow peaches with red blush of excellent quality that are great fresh, frozen and for canning. Somewhat disease susceptible.

Reliance - Very hardy peach. Ripens in July. Medium to large size fruit with sweet, peachy flavor. Great for baking, eating, and canning.

Saturn – Ripens in July. White doughnut-type peach with the sweetest and most flavorful fruit.

Suncrest – Ripens in mid-August. Large, fine-flavored peaches have firm flesh that's excellent for canning. Red skin and yellow flesh. Somewhat disease susceptible.

Veteran – Ripens in late August. Golden-yellow skin with slight red blush. Great for fresh eating and canning. One of the easiest varieties of peach to grow.

NECTARINES

Fantasia - A popular large yellow free-stone variety. Ripens late July into August. Early harvest of firm ripe and tangy fruit; later harvest gives you sweet fruit with rich flavor. Self-fertile; consistent yields.

Flavortop Nectarine – Ripens Mid July. Large red skinned free stone fruit is firm and juicy with an excellent sweet flavor, said to be supreme for pies and cobblers.

Hardy Red Nectarine - Produces red over yellow fruit in early to mid-August.

Sweet, firm yellow flesh is great fresh, in desserts or for canning and preserves. Vigorous and productive.

Kreibich – Bright red skin over white flesh, this exceptionally sweet nectarine also exhibits some leaf-curl resistance.

Snow Queen – Freestone to semi-freestone nectarines with white flesh and exceptional flavor.

