



Tyler's
Carlmont
Nursery

2029 Ralston Ave
Belmont, CA 94002
Ph. 650.591.6845
www.CarlmontNursery.com
info@CarlmontNursery.com

"HOW-TO" GUIDE

Growing

Citrus

PLANTING:

Citrus can be planted any time of the year (spring is best) in containers or directly in the ground. The best site is a wind-free full southern exposure that allows for maximum sun and heat. Dig your hole to the depth of the root ball and twice the diameter. Good drainage is key for citrus success, so be sure to amend your backfill soil so that it is comprised of 1/3 *Master Nursery Planting Mix*, 1/3 *Master Nursery Top Soil Plus* and 1/3 native soil. Add the recommended amount of *Master Start* fertilizer then fill the hole halfway with the amended soil and water thoroughly to settle the soil. Fill the remainder of the hole then make a soil basin just slightly larger than the root ball, and water thoroughly.

WATERING:

Timely watering is essential for proper growth and fruiting of citrus. Citrus needs moist soil but never standing water. Young trees, especially, need special attention and should be watered more frequently, usually two times a week during the summer months and more frequently during hot, dry spells. For established trees allow the top few inches of soil to dry out between waterings, taking care not to let the tree reach the wilting point. Be sure to water the entire root ball to a depth of 3-4 feet (a stick or soil probe can be used to measure the depth) and be sure to be consistent with your watering! Fluctuating waterings can lead to fruit split and/or premature fruit drop. Yellowing and cupped leaves indicates excessive watering or soggy soil.

FERTILIZING:

Citrus can be heavy feeders and require a fair amount of nitrogen to perform their best. Begin feeding early in the season with *Master Nursery Citrus Food* and continue through July. Additional feedings may be necessary if leaves take on a pale green or yellowish tone. Always be sure to water well the day BEFORE you apply fertilizers and water again once they are applied.

PESTS & DISEASES:

Citrus have relatively few disease problems and most only occur with heavy irrigation or poor drainage. Pests of citrus include aphids, mites, mealybugs and scale and all can be controlled with *Master Nursery Pest Fighter Oil*. Scale (looks like 1/8" round brown bumps on stems) can be a real problem if left unchecked. Watch for ants in and around your citrus as they are farming the scale and fighting off natural enemies. Use *Tanglefoot®* around the base of the trunk to keep ants off of your plants and pick off scale as soon as they begin to appear.

FROST PROTECTION:

Spray your citrus plants the day after Thanksgiving with *Cloud Cover®* to help protect the foliage from heavy frosts.