

Mango

**DID YOU KNOW
THERE ARE OVER
1000 VARIETIES
OF MANGO?**

CAN I GROW MANGOS?

Mangos are a deliciously sweet fruit that has been enjoyed for thousands of years. Traditionally they are grown in tropical environments (USDA growing ones 10-12), but they can be grown in non-tropical climates in a pot with a little bit of extra care. It takes 3 to 5 years for mango trees to produce fruit.

GROWING MANGOS IN TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTS

It's easy to grow mangos in their native climate. To plant, you will need a mix the proper soil. You can either use a mixture of 1 part sand and 1 part potting soil, or a 5-1-1 blend (5 parts pine bark, 1 part perlite, and 1 part organic compost). Dig a hole a little bit bigger than the size of the pot, place the plant in the hole, backfill with your silk choice, and then water thoroughly to reduce air pockets. Water fairly infrequently, only when the soil is dry underneath the surface.

GROWING MANGOS IN NON-TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTS

To grow mangos in non-tropical environments, you will want to plant your mangos in a pot. Mangos are only cold-hardy to approximately 40 degrees Fahrenheit. They really should be brought inside at the start of fall to avoid cold damage. You will need to use either a 5-1-1 blend or a sand/potting mix soil blend as described above. You will want to make sure that you do not use too big of a pot as over-potted mangos will likely suffer from root rot. Fertilize in the spring with an balanced, organic fertilizer and then supplement with natural options like blood meal, fish emulsion or worm castings every few months.



PRUNING TIPS

In a pot, mangos will grow fairly slowly. They should not need to be extensively pruned except for when shoots come up from below the graft. When planted in the ground, mangos will grow faster and should be pruned after fruiting and before winter.

COMMON PESTS AND DISEASES

Powdery Mildew is a fungal disease often caused by overhead watering and humidity. It looks like a whitish-grey haze covering the leaves, stems and/or branches. If not treated with an organic fungicide, powdery mildew can kill a mango plant. Baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) mixed with water is an old home-remedy spray for powdery mildew. Neem oil is also effective.

Greenhouse Thrip is a leaf-eating bug that can be treated with neem oil. Make sure you spray the plant in the evening so that the oil has plenty of time to absorb into the tree before the hot afternoon.

Mango Tipburn can occur from sporadic irrigation or extreme fluctuations in soil moisture. Another possible cause is salt accumulation in the soil. If your plant's drainage is poor, salt can build up in the soil, causing tipburn of mango leaves.

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