



Best Fruit Varieties for Backyard Growing

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Avocado - Naturally dwarf types include **'Rincon'** (A), **'Pinkerton'** (A), **'Wurtz'** (A), **'Hazzard'** (A). Other options both with good self pollination = **'Lamb Hass'** (A) and **'Fuerte'** (B)

Banana - Saba, Pisang Ceylon, Blue Java, Terema, Senorite, Sucrier, Pisang Mas, Dwarf Ducasse, Dwarf Red Dacca, Lady Finger. See Blue Sky Backyard Bananas for descriptions and orders – www.backyardbananas.com.au

Blueberry - (only rabbiteye, low chill types, plant 3 different types - grow easily from cuttings)
'Sharpblue', **'Biloxi'**, **'Gulfcoast'**, **'Brightwell'**, **'Premier'**, **'Climax'**

Custard Apple – **'Paxton's Prolific'** – relatively new introduction, more reliable pollination/bearing

Fig (*Grows easily from cuttings*) **'Brown Turkey'**, **'Black Genoa'**- both commercially grown varieties

Grapefruit (*Buy grafted plants*), **'Flame'** (fewer seeds than Ruby or Red Blush), **'Ruby Red'** or **'Red Blush'**, **'Thompson Seedless'** – more subject to fruit fly; **'Marsh Seedless'** – more subject to fruit fly

Lemon - **'Lots of Lemons'** & **Lemonicious** – cutting grown & good for pots, but prone to fruit fly

'Meyer' – grafted & suitable for pots or gardens, but prone to fruit fly

'Eureka' – grafted, winter bearing, but some fruit year round

Bush – seed grown, highly variable, thick skin, juice content varies

'Villa Franca' – grafted, winter bearing with some summer and autumn fruit

'Lisbon' – grafted, winter bearing with fruit storing well

'Fino' – grafted, vigorous grower, thorny, seedless, winter bearing but some fruit year round

Lime - Native/Finger/Round limes - grafted selections include **'Rainforest Pearl'** and **'Red Centre Blood Lime'**. Late summer - early winter bearing, very hardy. Buy grafted for faster, more reliable fruiting.

'Tahitian' – mild flavour and best for our climate, rough lemon rootstock gives large tree and early crop while *Poncirus trifoliata* rootstock gives a smaller late harvest tree.

'West Indian Lime' (Mexican or Key Lime), prickly, with smaller seedy fruit. May be seed grown, cutting grown or grafted. Sublime is a cutting grown West Indian Lime.

Kaffir Lime – *Citrus hystrix* – seed or grafted.

Mandarin (buy grafted plants)

Early season include **'Clementine'**, **'Daisy'**, **'Imperial'**, **'Okitsu Wase'**, **'Satsuma'**

Mid season **'Dancy'**, **'Hickson'**

Late season – **'Afourer'**, **'Avana Tardivo'**, **'Ellendale'**, **'Honey Murcott'**

Mango - Grafted or seed grown polyembryonic types (**'Honey Gold'**, **'Bowen'**, **'R2E2'**)

Orange (*buy grafted plants*)

'Valencia' or **'Seedless Valencia'** (slightly later fruiting); **'Joppa'** (Dual purpose juicing and eating)

'Arnold Blood Orange'; **'Navel'** (numerous different types)

Poor Man's Orange – seed grown, selected hybrid pummelo

Passionfruit - Grows easily from seed. **'Pandorea'**, **'Panana Red'**, **'Panama Gold'**, **'E-23'**, **'Lacey'**, **'Sunshine Special'**, **'Misty Gem'**, **'Inca Gold'**. **Avoid grafted Nellie Kelly and banana passionfruit**

Pawpaw (*Grows easily from seed*). Save seed for good performing local variety

'Southern Red' – Bisexual, red fleshed. **'Richter x Sunnybank'** - Yellow flesh, single sex sold 3 per pot

Mulberry (*Grows easily from cuttings*)

'Dwarf Black' (grafted), **'Red Shahtoot'**, **'White Shahtoot'**. Select a cutting from a known fruiting plant.

Note: *My preferred varieties identified in bold.* Cutting grown citrus best suited to pots. Flying Dragon dwarfing rootstock available for most citrus varieties.

**For more information see the book Organic Fruit Growing by Annette McFarlane
ABC Radio Gardening Talkback Sat. from 6am. Weekly gardening column in Sunday Mail.**