

Rare Fruit for Climates with Relatively Frost Free Winters

These fruiting plants will tolerate occasional temperatures at or below freezing. Although many prefer temperatures not below 40 degrees F., all will fruit in areas with winter temperatures that get down to 32 degrees F. Some of these plants will survive temperatures into the mid or low 20's F. or below.

❖ Some of these fruit may have heat requirements, most have little or no chilling requirements.

PLANT NAME	COLD HARDINESS	COMMENTS
MIRACLE FRUIT <i>Synsepalum dulcificum</i>	Young plants intolerant of frost. Older plants can survive a light frost.	An acid soil is a must! When the fruit is eaten, bitter and sour foods will taste sweet.
RAISIN TREE <i>Hovenia dulcis</i>	about -10° F.	The swollen peduncle is the edible "raisin". This chewy stem is sweet with a pear-like flavor.
JABOTICABA <i>Myrciaria cauliflora</i>	about 25° F.	Flowers and fruit grow all over the trunk and main branches. Fruit is reminiscent of a thick-skinned grape.
PINEBERRY STRAWBERRIES <i>Fragaria chiloensis X F. virginiana</i>	0° F or below.	White to pinkish-hued fruits. Partially self-pollinating. Cross pollinate with a red strawberry for better fruit production.
CHILEAN WINE PALM <i>Jubaea chilensis</i>	about 20° F.	Intolerant of hot, humid tropical or subtropical climates. Fruit are fleshy and sweet, the nut tastes like a miniature coconut.
MINNIE ROYAL CHERRY & ROYAL LEE CHERRY <i>Prunus avium</i>	0° F or below.	Very good "Bing"- quality, sweet cherries with very low chill requirements, 200-300 hours or less. Both of these cherries are required for cross pollination.
PRUNUS sp. HYBRIDS CHERRY PLUM, PLUERRY, PEACH-PLUM, NECTAPLUM, PEACHCOT, PEACOTUM, PLUM-COT, APRIUM, PLUOT	Varies by fruit type and variety. Late cold snaps are damaging or possibly lethal if they occur after bud break.	Interspecific <i>Prunus</i> hybrids. Many new fruit types and varieties, with both low chill and high chill hour requirements. Some need cross-pollination. Fruit season, color, flavor, size and other characteristics vary by type.
INTERSPECIFIC CITRUS HYBRIDS Valentine Pummelo, Chironja Orangelo, Wekiwa Tangelolo, Ortanique Tangor, Cocktail Grapefruit, Kumquat Hybrids: Limequats, Lemonquats, Mandarinquats, Orangequats, Citrangequats	Varies by fruit type and variety. Kumquats and kumquat hybrids are among some of the most cold hardy citrus.	Many new or rare citrus fruit types and varieties. Fruit season, color, flavor, size and other characteristics vary by type and variety.
AUSTRALIAN FINGER LIME <i>Microcitrus australasica</i>	mid 20's F.	Juice vesicles are referred to as "caviar lime" and occur in green, yellow, orange, pink and red colors. Flavor is similar to that of a lime.
SMITH RED VALENCIA ORANGE <i>Citrus sinensis</i>	mid 20's F.	Fruit has reddish rind, deep red-colored flesh, few seeds, an excellent flavor and holds well on the tree.
KAFFIR LIME <i>Citrus hystrix</i>	High 20's F.	The pungent leaves and not the fruit is used in Thai and Indonesian cooking.

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POHA (CAPE GOOSEBERRY) <i>Physalis peruviana</i>	about 28° F.	An herbaceous tender perennial related to tomato. Fruit can be stored for up to 3 months.
PEPINO DULCE <i>Solanum muricatum</i>	27 to 28° F.	An herbaceous tender perennial related to tomato. Not well suited for hot, interior climates. Fruit flavor is similar to a mild cantaloupe or honeydew melon.
BANANA <i>Musa acuminata</i> & hybrids	Pseudostems hardy to 26-28° F. Rhizomes will survive 22° F. for short periods.	Each pseudostem fruits only once and then dies. Plants need 10 - 15 months of frost-free conditions to produce a flower stalk. Over 80 varieties available.
MANGO <i>Mangifera indica</i>	Young trees damaged below 30° F, mature trees hardy to about 26° F.	Trees love heat. The new foliage, flowers and young fruit are affected by powdery mildew. It is <u>best</u> to remove fruit after they have set when trees are small.
PINEAPPLE <i>Ananas comosus</i>	Frost sensitive, should be protected from freezing temperatures.	A terrestrial bromeliad; plants produce only one fruit and then die. Offshoots produce a spreading clump of pineapple plants.
COFFEE <i>Coffea arabica</i>	Approximately 28° F.	Bears 3 or more crops per year. Fragrant flowers, sweet fruit and seeds (beans) which are dried and roasted to make coffee.
PAPAYA <i>Carica papaya</i>	32° F is damaging and prolonged cold will kill plants. Cold, wet soil is almost always lethal.	Short-lived herbaceous trees, best planted in mounds or in a raised bed. Plants love heat. Trees may be dioecious or monoecious. Mexican papayas are easier to grow than Hawaiian papayas.
BABACO PAPAYA <i>Carica pentagona</i>	about 28° F.	A dwarf, cold hardy, self-fruitful papaya. Plants are parthenocarpic and produce seedless fruit. Fruit is fragrant, juicy and has the flavor of a honeydew melon with lemon-lime.
LOQUAT <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	12° F., the flower bud is killed at about 19° F.	Cold snaps below 25° F during flowering or fruiting will result in crop loss. High temperatures during fruiting result in sunburned fruit. Trees are susceptible to fire blight.
PRICKLY PEAR (TUNA) <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	about 18° F.	Both cactus pads and fruit may have many spines or may be nearly spineless. The fruit have glochids. Fruit color ranges from pale green to deep red. The bright red/purple or white/yellowish flesh has a taste similar to watermelon. Young pads eaten as "Nopales".
NATAL PLUM <i>Carissa macrocarpa</i> & <i>C. grandiflora</i>	mid to low 20's F.	Plant is drought tolerant and has high resistance to alkaline soil, soil salinity and salt spray. Fragrant flowers. Unripe fruit is rich in latex, ripe fruit has cranberry-like flavor.
STRAWBERRY GUAVA <i>Psidium cattleianum</i> & <i>P. cattleianum lucidum</i>	low 20's F.	Evergreen shrub or small tree, tolerant of heavy pruning and shaping. Fruit can be dark red or yellow.

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TROPICAL GUAVA <i>Psidium guajava</i>	brief periods to 26° F.	Dessert type tropical guavas have ripe fruit that has a strong fragrance and are eaten soft and creamy. "Vietnamese" or crunchy types have fruit that are larger in size, always have white flesh, are eaten crisp like an apple and have no fragrance.
PINEAPPLE GUAVA (FEIJOA) <i>Acca sellowiana</i>	to about 15° F.	Prefers cool winters and moderate summers. Beautiful flowers have edible petals. Some varieties require a pollinizer. Plant is very tolerant of heavy pruning.
PURPLE PASSION FRUIT <i>Passiflora edulis and P. edulis X flavocarpa</i>	the mid 20's	A short-lived (5 to 7 years) vigorous evergreen vine, not affected by caterpillars. 'Frederick' is considered the best fruiting passion fruit cultivar for California. Beautiful flowers.
BANANA PASSION FRUIT <i>P. tripartita var. mollissima</i>	about 28° F.	Also a short-lived (5 to 7 years) vigorous evergreen vine. Not as esteemed as the purple passion fruit. Has beautiful pink flowers.
CHERIMOYA <i>Annona cherimola</i>	approximately 25° F.	Does not produce well in very dry climates. Some self fruit set often occurs; hand pollinate flowers to insure fruit production. Considered to be one of the world's best-tasting fruits.
DRAGON FRUIT (PITAHAYA) <i>Hylocereus undatus, H. polyrhizus, and Hybrids</i>	to the high 20's F.	A climbing cactus , trellising is needed. Many varieties are self-sterile & require cross-pollination to produce fruit. Individual flowers are open for only 1 night. Flesh color is white, pink or dark red; flavor is mild and sweet.
YELLOW DRAGON FRUIT <i>Selenicereus megalanthus</i>	high 20's F.	A climbing cactus , trellising is needed. Self-fruitful. This fruit has thorns that fall off as the fruit matures and is sweeter than most <u>Hylocereus</u> .
DRAGON EGG (PITAYA) <i>Cereus peruvianus</i>	to the mid 20's F.	Fruit is sweet, pleasant and mild in flavor but somewhat grainy in texture. Spectacular 5"- 6" flowers. The variety 'monstrosus' is smaller, bluish in color with ribs broken up into knobs and crests.
WHITE SAPOTE <i>Casimiroa edulis</i>	about 22° F.	Grafted trees are smaller than seedling grown trees. Fruit is soft, creamy and sugary sweet with a flavor reminiscent of peach or banana. The skin is sometimes bitter.
SAPODILLA (CHICO SAPOTE) <i>Manilkara zapota</i>	to 26° to 28° F. for several hours.	Fruit is sweet with a flavor similar to pear and crunchy brown sugar. Some varieties require cross-pollination.
BLACK SAPOTE <i>Diospyros digyna</i>	to 26° to 28° F. for brief periods.	Trees may be dioecious or monoecious though some are self-incompatible. The soft pulp is dark brown in color with a sweet, mild flavor. Fruit is often likened to chocolate pudding when ripe.
LYCHEE <i>Litchi chinensis</i>	about 25° F.	Trees are sensitive to excess salt and wind. Most varieties need 100-200 hours of winter chilling for flower bud development. Fruit production is often unreliable. Fruit is sweet, fragrant and delicious.

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LONGAN <i>Dimocarpus longan</i>	about 25° F.	Related to and very similar in fruit to Lychee, trees are easier to grow and are more reliably fruitful than their Lychee cousin.
CARAMBOLA (STAR FRUIT) <i>Averrhoa carambola</i>	about 27° F.	Some varieties do best with pollinators, other varieties are self-fruitful. Fruit are crunchy and watermelon-like in texture, sweet to sweet-tart in flavor with beautiful star-shape when cut into slices.
ACEROLA <i>Malpighia emarginata</i>	brief exposure to 28° F.	Fruit is up to 40 times higher in vitamin C than an orange by weight, sweet-tart in flavor. Spraying flowers with “Blossom Set” increases fruit production.
SPLIT LEAF PHILODENDRON <i>Monstera deliciosa</i>	Light frost.	Plant prefers high humidity and shade. Unripe green fruits contain needle-like structures which can irritate the mouth and throat. The fruits must be eaten after the scales lift up. Ripe fruit has a fruity taste similar to jackfruit and pineapple.
JELLY PALM <i>Butia capitata</i>	at least 15° F.	A small palm to about 20'. Fruit has the flavor of apricots and pineapple.
CHERRY OF THE RIO GRANDE <i>Eugenia aggregata</i>	approximately 20° F.	Fairly drought tolerant. Fruit have a sweet cherry-like flavor.
GRUMICHAMA <i>Eugenia dombeyi</i>	to 28° F.	Also known as the Brazilian Cherry, the fruit is considered one of the best tasting of the Eugenia cherry-like fruits. Deep red new foliage and lovely flowers.
SURINAM CHERRY <i>Eugenia uniflora</i>	superficial injury at 22° F.	Fruit are highly ornamental, very fragile, melting and very juicy; acid to sweet, with a touch of resin and slight bitterness.
MALABAR CHESTNUT <i>Bombax glabra</i>	approximately 26° F.	Spectacular flowers, plants are often sold as “Money Trees”. Nut pods resemble a child’s toy football and the seeds (nuts) are similar to the flavor of chestnuts.
ROSE APPLE <i>Syzygium jambos</i>	approximately 28° F.	New growth is a beautiful wine red. Flowers are quite showy and are produced throughout the summer. The ping pong ball sized fruit is mild in flavor and tastes like roses smell.
WAX JAMBU <i>Syzygium javanicum</i>	protect from temperatures below 32° F.	Very showy flowers. White, pink or red fruit has a mild, watery flavor and crisp texture.
LINGARO <i>Elaeagnus philippinensis</i>	to the mid 20's F.	Plant is drought tolerant and harbors nitrogen fixing organisms in their roots. The small tart-sweet fruits have a flavor similar to currants.
KEI APPLE <i>Dovyalis caffra</i>	to 20° F.	Plants are dioecious and have very large, very sharp, woody spines. The 1”-2” fruits are tart-sweet in flavor.
CHOCOLATE VINE <i>Akebia Quinata</i>	to -25° F.	A twining shrub, flowers are chocolate-scented. Cross-pollination and hand-pollination is recommended.
JUJUBE <i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	about -28° F.	Fruit can be eaten fresh (crisp and sweet, apple-like) or dried (chewy and date-like).

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CHE <i>Cudrania tricuspidata</i>	-20° F.	Plants usually dioecious. Related to mulberry, fruit has a watermelon-like flavor.
GOJI BERRY (CHINESE WOLFBERRY) <i>Lycium barbarum</i>	to -15° F.	Plants are susceptible to powdery mildew and spread by root suckers. Berries have some of the highest concentrations of antioxidants.
KIWIFRUIT <i>Actinidia deleciosa & A. chinensis</i>	to 10°F. or lower.	Vines are dioecious. 350 hours to over 800 chill hours and at least 240 frost-free days are required for fruit.
HARDY KIWI <i>Actinidia arguta</i>	to 10°F. or lower.	Most cultivars are dioecious. At least 150 frost-free days are required for fruit. No chill hour requirements have been observed.
WHITE or RED MULBERRY <i>M. alba, M. rubra</i> and Hybrids	at least 0° F.	Large trees. Fruit can be insipidly sweet or have a flavor almost equal the Persian mulberry.
PERSIAN MULBERRY <i>Morus nigra</i>	at least 0° F.	A smaller, slower growing mulberry. Many consider them the best flavored species of mulberry.
POMEGRANATE <i>Punica granatum</i>	about 12° F.	Best adapted to cool winters and hot summers. Many varieties. Fruit flavor ranges from very tart to sweet. Seeds may be soft and chewable or very hard.
ORIENTAL PERSIMMON <i>Diospyros kaki</i>	to 0° F.	Does not produce well in the high summer heat of desert regions, where the bark may also sunburn. Non-astringent cultivars need hot summers. Astringent cultivars are best adapted to cooler regions.
FIG <i>Ficus carica</i>	about 15° F.	Bark is very sensitive to heat and sun damage. Rains during fruit development can cause fruit to split. Roots are invasive. Over 160 cultivars.
ELDERBERRY <i>Sambucus niqra</i>	to -15° F.	Most uncooked berries and other parts of plants from this genus are poisonous. <i>S. niqra</i> considered to be non-toxic, but it is still recommended that its berries be cooked slightly.



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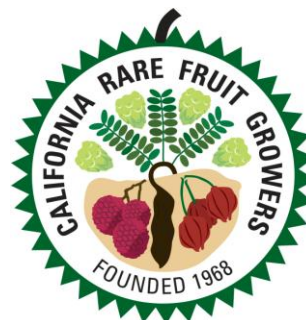
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