

## *Patio Fruit Trees*

Limited space does not mean you can't grow and harvest mangoes. Consider growing a tropical fruit tree in a container. Start by choosing a fruit tree suitable for container culture, next plant it correctly, water and fertilize regularly and voila. . fresh tropical fruit for the table.



**Figure 1 Fruit Trees in containers in Mounts Botanical Garden**

The real work required for the proper cultivation of fruit crops in containers include acquiring a container that has bottom holes for adequate drainage. Screen the drainage holes to prevent the soil from seeping out. Select a professional potting soil, fill and properly plant the fruit plant no deeper than it was originally growing in its nursery pot. Water as needed and thoroughly, be sure water comes out of the bottom of the container and never sits in that excess water for very long. Fertilize with a water soluble complete fertilizer that contains minor elements according to label instructions during the warm growing months of the year. Properly prune after fruiting. For more information on growing fruit in South Florida contact the Master Gardener Volunteer Hotline Mon-Fri, 9-4 at 561-233-1750.

<b>Table 1.</b> University of Florida recommended fruit crops which can be grown in containers.		
Tropical Fruits	Citrus Fruits	Temperate Fruits
Avocado	Calamondin	Blackberry
Banana	Key Lime	Blueberry
Barbados Cherry	Kumquat	Fig
Carambola	Lemon	Strawberry
Guava	Limequat	
Jaboticaba	Tahiti Lime	
Papaya		
Passion Fruit		
Pineapple		