

POMEGRANATE CATALOGUE

Punica granatum

The pomegranate, known botanically as *Punica granatum* and affectionately known as the "Jewel of Winter," is one of the earliest cultivated fruits. Historical evidence suggests that man first began planting pomegranate trees sometime between 4000 B.C.E and 3000 B.C.E. The fruit is high in nutrition. On average one pomegranate will provide approximately 40% Vitamin C, 2% Calcium and 8% Iron and containing only 1% of total fat. In days gone by, the juice was the soft drink of the Middle East.

The most popular of the fruit is the Wonderful which has spectacular colour and excellent juicy flavour.



CONTAINER SIZE

Our pomegranates are grown in either a 70mm tube or a 47mm biodegradable plant band. Larger pot sizes can be produced upon request.

GROWING MEDIA

At Sunraysia Nurseries we take great care with our plants by growing them in pasteurised (aerated-steam treated) media to prevent Phytophthora contamination.

GROWING HABITS

Pomegranate trees grow quite small and shrubby to a height of approximately 5m with a 4m spread. The tree is deciduous, forming small - medium sized fruit on the ends of the branches. White and red flowers are produced over an extended period from spring to summer. Once a pomegranate tree is planted, its fruit begins to develop after approximately one year.

PLANTING

Pomegranates should be placed in the sunniest, warmest part of the yard or orchard for the best fruit, although they will grow and flower in part shade. The attractive foliage, flowers and fruits of the pomegranate, as well as its smallish size make it an excellent landscaping plant. Pomegranates will grow well in most soils and all climates. The perfect pomegranate climate is the Mediterranean type. Humidity is not a problem nor is the cold. The dormant bush can tolerate -5°C with ease.

HARVESTING

Pomegranates ripen in late autumn. Always harvest the biggest and best coloured fruit first as if left on the tree longer, can cause the fruit to split and rot. If the fruit is picked when in perfect harvest, it can last up to 2-3 months. Picking carefully will ensure that fruit does not rot or bruise. Pomegranates can be stored whole in a dark, cool place for up to a month and in the refrigerator for up to two months. The outside of the fruit may start to shrivel but the seeds inside will remain juicy and crisp.

VARIETIES

WONDERFUL:

Best known fruiting variety. Deep red exterior colour with bright red interior. Medium sized fruit which is mildly sweet and has hard seeds. Excellent for juicing and eaten fresh.

SHEPHERDS RED:

Dark red exterior with pale pink interior. Medium to hard seeds.

JENNINGS:

Bright red exterior, pale pink interior. Hard crunchy seeds with a pleasant acidic flavour.

GIANT SEEDLING:

Yellow to pale pink flush exterior with pale pink interior. Large sized fruit with soft seeds and mildly sweet flavour.