

»10 biggest citrus growing mistakes«

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Citrus is one of the commonest fruits grown by fruit growers but there are mistakes most of them make.

Planting a tree without having a taste of the fruit, planting a tree at the wrong time of the year, not allowing the trees to reach their maximum size. Planting the citrus too deeply is another common mistake ie most citrus trees are grafted hence it is recommended that you do not cover/ burry the graft. Trees planted too deeply are more susceptible to pests and diseases, have less production and end up dying.

Other mistakes

Enriching the planting hole. This is done by refilling the planing hole with nutrient rich soils and compost. This has negative impacts on the tree in that it prevents the tree from developing an extensive root system.

Not watering citrus trees deep enough. Problems with citrus can be traced back to incorrect watering hence learning how to correctly water your citrus is very important. Curling up of leaves is a sign of water stress. Citrus require deep, slow and frequent watering.

Over pruning of citrus. This is done by removing the lower brunches and this exposes the root zone of the tree to sunlight and the tree looses a lot of water.

Not fertilizing citrus. Citrus produces many fruits and are hence heavy feeders meaning they need fertilization in order to produce the fruits. Citrus discolouration and pale leaves are signs of nutrient deficiency.

Exposing the citrus bark from sunlight Citrus bark is easily burnt by sunshine.

Not harvesting all the fruits. Leaving some citrus on the tree invites pests such as bugs, insects and rats to your tree. This also allows the citrus to shift its energy from the fruits towards producing blossoms.