



How to care for your new citrus tree...with success!

1. **Citrus love soil that drains well.** You should not have to worry about this now as we've potted your new tree in a formulated mixture that will allow for fast drainage, reducing the chance of your tree's roots standing in an "overwatered" soil, causing "wet feet" syndrome and yellow vein chlorosis (where leaf's central vein turns yellow with leaf eventually dropping).

When the tree becomes rootbound in the next 2 years or so, you will want to move up from the current 14" container to a 16" container. Then, refer to the enclosed pencil drawing "Successful Citrus Growing" as to the layering of soil with percentages of peat moss/vermiculite/perlite to use. Also, allow for good drainage in the bottom with broken clay pot pieces 1-2" in depth. Buy several small, inexpensive pots to break...don't use previous pots that have possible fungal contamination from other plants (see attached diagram).

2. **Watering citrus. Most important! When using tap water to water citrus, let tap water stand several days before using to allow chlorination to dissipate before using!!!** We usually fill a watering can right after we've watered so it will be ready for next watering and assures no chlorine left to harm tree!!!

It is better to underwater citrus than to overwater! However, you do not want to let the root ball go dry! The moisture meter (*included in bucket*) has been provided to help you if in doubt. If it reads on the dry side of **MOIST** (at **3** or **4**)...(where red meets green) it is probably safe to water. (**moisture meter scale**: 1 to 10, with 1 being **very dry**, 10 being **very moist**!)

Another way to check is by lifting the pot. If it is overly heavy, don't water. The soil mixture is light and when it dries out, you can tell! (Stick your finger down into the soil about 4" to see if it is dry.) However, *another sign of thirst is leaf curl with the outer edges of the leaves beginning to roll up like a cigar.* When you see this, water. The best way to determine is by doing all of the above before watering just to be on the safe side!

When watering, **ALWAYS MAKE IT A THOROUGH DRENCHING!!!** The drip saucer has been provided to place underneath the container to catch any excess water! Let any water

stand in the drip saucer until the next morning, then empty the drip saucer! Doesn't matter if it's 1-2 inches. This provides for any excess water to be reabsorbed back up into the soil, assuring that all roots receive a good drink! ***But don't forget, the next morning, drain all water from the saucer!*** During the summer we usually water 2 x per week (about every 3 days) when the trees are outside and winter, when the trees are indoors, about every 4-5 days.

KEEP MOUNDED SOIL AND WATER AWAY FROM TRUNK. When watering container, we like to make a deeper circular ring or "channel" in the soil towards the outer circumference of the pot to water in... this allows for the tree trunk to remain in dryer area of soil and lessens the chance of fungul rot (see attached diagram). **YOU DO NOT WANT TO WATER DIRECTLY ON THE TRUNK AS THIS will eventually induce rot!** Keep it dry at all times (except for pest spraying, of course).

3. **Fertilizing citrus.** Always use **organic** fertilizer; the newest and finest is **Charles Malki's IV ORGANIC SUPER BLEND 6 MACROS PLUS+ 13-12-13-1-3-3 (N-P-K-Mg-S-Ca)** @ 11.8oz \$29.95 from IV Organic.com. Another possible organic fertilizer is "**ecoscraps**" **Natural and Organic All-purpose Plant Food 5-5-5** for the macro nutrients (**N-P-K**) your tree needs (doesn't include all micro nutrients, however). **Fertilize 3 x per year:** Spring (*March*) – Summer (*June*) – Fall (*September*). Use **1 Tablespoon for each 6" of pot diameter (I use around 3 Tbsp. for the 14" pot like your tree is planted in; scratch into the topsoil but not too deep and not too close to tree trunk to avoid disturbing top of root ball)**. After September, do not use anymore IV Organic Super Blend 6 Macros Plus or "ecoscraps" as your tree will go dormant during the winter months...and this gives it a chance to rest and be cleansed with watering of any fertilizer build-up that may have occurred over the summer. (Check out **IVOrganic.com** for the best in citrus growing products)

*Also during the summer, you may add 1 Tbsp. of **Neptune's Harvest Fish & Seaweed Fertilizer** (included in bucket) for micro nutrients **per 1 gallon of water** as a supplement to the ecoscraps application and water with it every other week when the plant calls to be watered. Because of smell of this application, best if used outside; however, can be used indoors should you decide to keep the tree inside during the summer months and inside during winter if diluted somewhat. The reason for using this in winter is to prevent certain "micro" mineral deficiencies without inducing growth with a continued use of "ecoscraps" (A foliar tea nutrient supplement recipe of Charles Malki's has also been provided as another means of providing these by spraying leaves during summer months when tree is outdoors).

*Another application that can be applied 3-4 x year is **CALCIUM**. The best source is **egg shell!!!** Save your discarded shells (including any residue of albumin), let them dry out and when you have enough (maybe a dozen or so), crush them in a zip-lock bag to a size that can easily be spooned into a Bed, Bath & Beyond Coffee Grinder (\$19.99 purchase) and ground to face powder! **Add 3-4 Tbsps. and scratch into topsoil right before next watering...** (**CALCIUM** is noted in 4th place as a "macro" nutrient with many fertilizer manufacturers including less percentage of it in their fertilizer composite but in reality with citrus, it really falls in 3rd place and is of greater importance. Your tree sees it as N-P-**C**-K where potassium should be ranked 4th and Calcium 3rd!!!)

(* ...**NOT necessary when using IV Organic's NEW SUPER BLEND 6 MACROS PLUS**)

4. **Acclimating to outdoors for summer sun.** Before introducing your tree to outdoors and full sun, you should give it **2 weeks of acclimation in the shade**. Find a shady spot where your tree can receive indirect light and not be in full sunlight for 1 week. During the 2nd week, slowly move the tree out into the sun a little more each day of the 2nd week. Do this by subjecting

more of its branches and leaves each time! This will protect its delicate leaves from immediate sunburn.

Any time a tree is shipped or moved, it will send it into shock. Usually 2 weeks left alone, will allow it to adjust to its new environment. That's why it is critical to shade the tree the first few days you receive it (or deciding to move it outside from indoors after a period of time)!

A MUST!!! The painting of the main trunk white with the IV ORGANIC WHITE WASH (included in bucket) to protect your citrus tree's tender trunk from SUNBURN...deflecting sun's intense rays that would eventually crack the trunk. Follow directions on can. Add powder to can, fill halfway and stir. Check for consistency (You do not want the paint too thick, nor too runny). Probably 2/3 full will be about right. Take the brush and paint from the bottom of the trunk up into the leaf canopy so that the exposed trunk is fully covered. The can of paint, with lid resealed after use, can be left out for 2 weeks. After that, it can be stored safely in your freezer and thawed at later time for re-use; again after each use, freeze!

Also when acclimating tree to full sun and extreme heat, protect leaves by using **IV ORGANIC's 3-IN-1 PLANT GUARD READY-TO-USE SPRAY** (included in bucket). This is the same product as in the can but easier to apply to sensitive leaves through spray. Lightly mist the leaves to protect from sunburn and extreme heat. Follow directions on bottle.

5. **Controlling pests.** And finally, as your tree may become victim to the all-too-common **citrus pests** (mainly *mealy bugs*, *spider mites* and *scale*), **you will want to keep a close eye on tender branch surfaces** (*scale—little hard pests that look like “turtle shells”*); **where leaves attach to branches** (*looks like spun webs or lint with little moving specks*) and **sticky spots on both top and underneath sides of leaves** (spider mites and mealy bugs)!!!

If you detect any infestation, use both the **NEEM OIL EXTRACT** and **CAPTAIN JACK'S DEADBUG SPRAY** (included in bucket) (**both organically safe!**) to combat these and other pests that may chose YOUR TREE as their lunch!!! These bugs can and will drain the vitality right out of your tree!

1st week...Administer 1 APPLICATION ONLY, **Neem Oil Extract** (follow ALL directions on bottle; **4 Tbsp./gallon H₂O** or **1 Tbsp./quart of water**) by spritzer bottle until top and undersides of leaves, stems and branches are covered.

2nd week...Administer 1 APPLICATION ONLY, **Captain Jack's Deadbug Spray** (follow ALL directions on spray bottle). Spray entire tree until top and underside of leaves, stems and branches are covered.

Wait 2 weeks...if pests persist, follow same application process again! This should eradicate any and all pests. Keep watch!

6. **Bringing indoors for winter.** Late Fall, when night-time temps start falling close to 54 degrees, it will be time to bring your tree indoors for its winter stay!

Place tree near window or sliding door (about 2' away) where it can receive maximum sunlight per day...but not too close to glass to get burnt by magnification of the sun coming through glass!

As our home has overhang and few windows, it is difficult for our trees to receive a lot of light so we substituted natural with artificial:

Check out: ACF Greenhouses.com

(<http://www.littlegreenhouse.com/accessory/lights2.shtml#sunled>)

Sun Blaze T5 High Output Grow Lights

This light system utilizes high output T5 fluorescent light bulbs and a highly reflective hood to provide an excellent light source for growing plants. **System includes:** Sun Blaze fixture (includes on/off switch and 12' grounded power cord), your choice of T5 fluorescent or LED bulbs, and cable hangers. Requires standard 110/120 volt outlet.



Sun Blaze 22: 23 3/4"L x 7 3/4"W x 2 1/2"H (5 lbs.)

Sun Blaze 24: 23 3/4"L x 12 1/2"W x 2 1/2"H (8 lbs.)

Sun Blaze 44: 47"L x 12 1/2"W x 2 1/2"H (15 lbs.)

****Sun Blaze 48:** 47"L x 22 1/2"W x 2 1/2"H (20 lbs.) - my choice

T5 FLUORESCENT BULBS (a regular fluorescent and not LED bulb!):

6500k bulbs are full spectrum and promote overall plant growth.

****3000k bulbs promote flowering/budding by providing higher output in the red spectrum. (For Wintering of citrus indoors!!!)**

Average bulb life is 20,000 hours.

Be observant in your watering over winter! Again, too much watering can be costly! We kept track on the calendar, marking the day we watered and then every 4-5 days checking until trees needed watering again. Counted off the days and marked so we'd know every week what day to water...had NO problems and NO leaf drop or yellow vein chlorosis! Well worth the effort when bringing citrus inside!!!

In watering, used same method...good drink of water. Let excess water collect in drip saucer and empty the following morning/day. Also, we picked up a small **"KING" Multi-Use Hand Pump at Farm King for \$6.99**. With 4 trees in the house, we needed an easy way to siphon excess water out of the drip saucers and into a bucket without spilling on the carpet (your pump and bucket are included).

Happy growing and can't wait to hear about your first lemon crop! Al & Sue (with great thanks to Charles Malki for everything he has taught us!!!)

Our Four Winds Growers Citrus... Indoors and Out!

Wintering indoors under T5 Fluorescent Grow Light (8 bulb/48"/3000K bulbs for budding/flowering) 10-18



Dwarf Lisbon Lemon tree indoors late 10-18



Dwarf Lisbon Lemon tree outdoors early 10-18



Dwarf Eureka Lemon tree outdoors 10-18

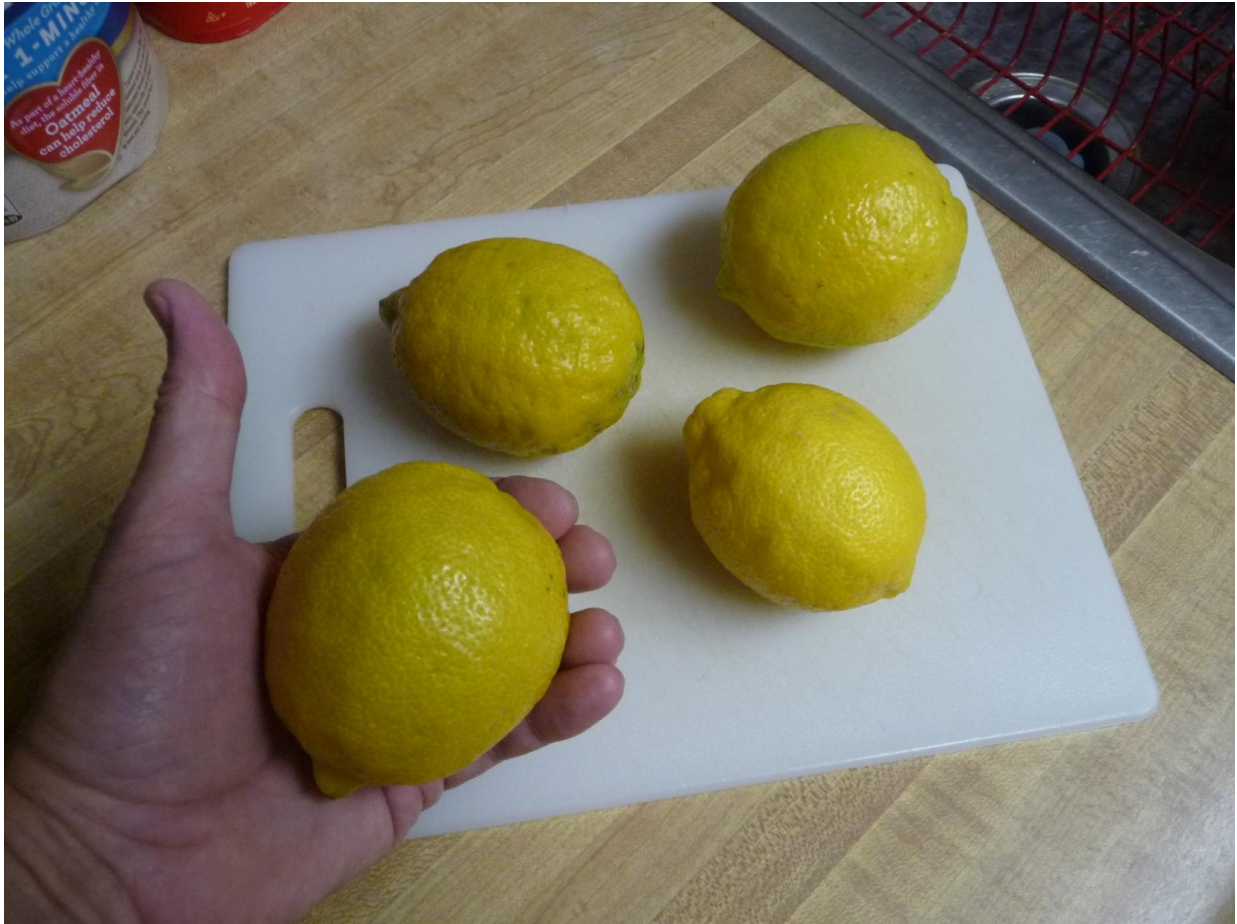


Increase in eureka lemon growth from 4-18 to present 10-18



Dwarf Washington Navel Tree outdoors early 10-18





Mid November 2018

Winter harvest begins with the first 4 ripe, beautiful lemons from our 1 Eureka tree!!! They put local grocery stores' to shame in both size and taste!!!

(All of our beautiful trees are purchased from "Four Winds Growers", located in Winters, CA @ fourwindsgrowers.com)

- Water free with sprinkling can afterwards, mixed with 1 tsp. "Super Thrive" B₁ vitamin as anti-shock treatment for repotting!

"Successful Citrus Growing"

IV Organics Corp.

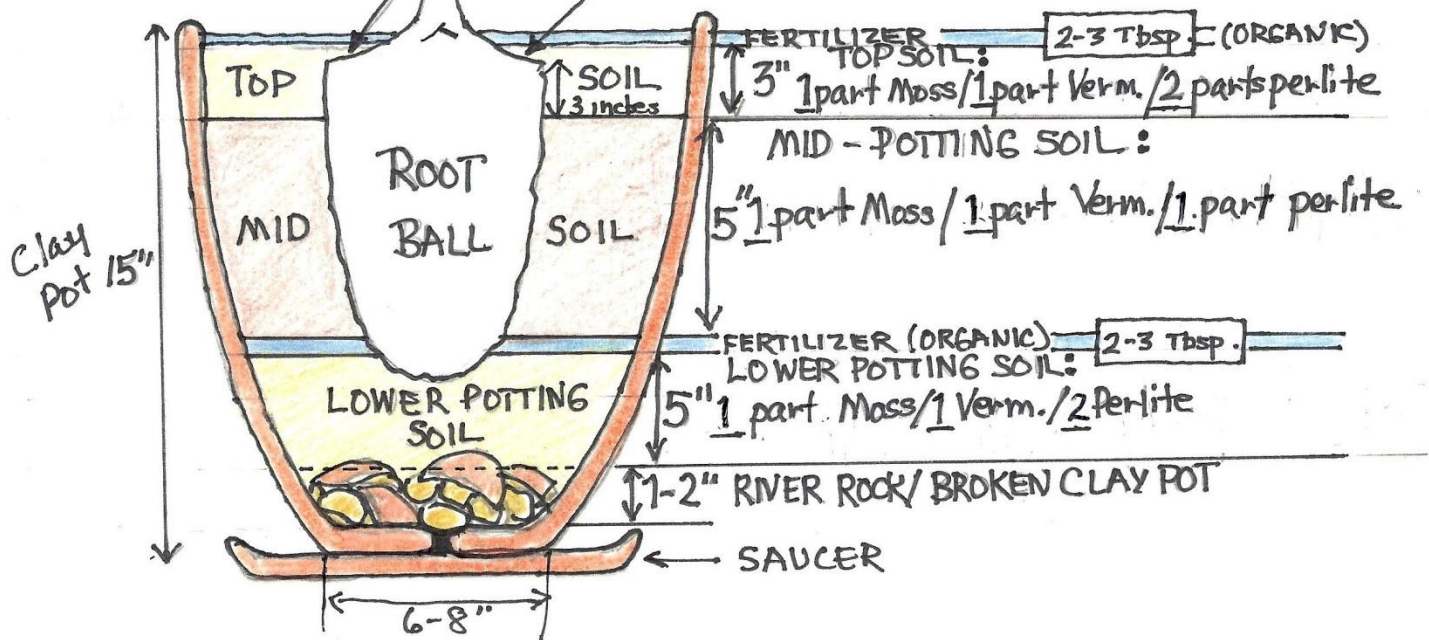
Charles Malki
Hollywood Hills, CA

Apply IV ORGANICS

3-IN-1

Plant Tree
Guard Paint

* Pull back soil around trunk so roots are just $\frac{1}{4}$ " under soil!!! Important!



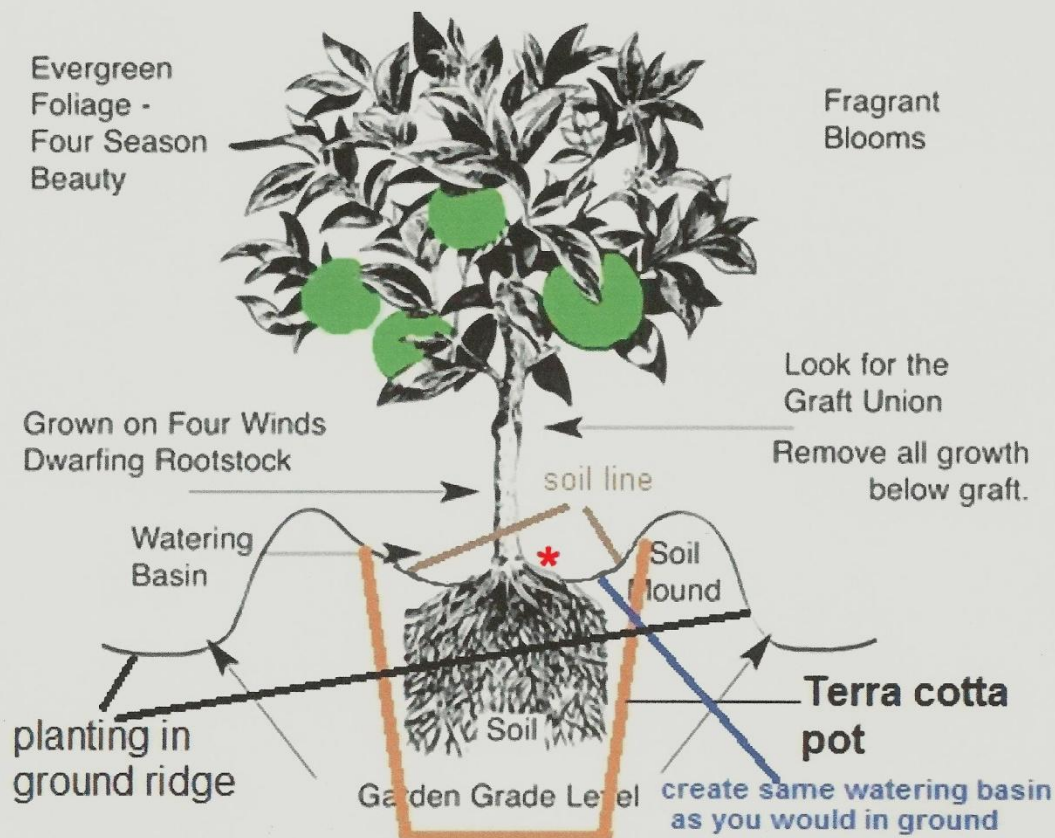
- Use sprinkling can, dampen Sphagnum peat moss, vermiculite & perlite before mixing!

"Sunshine" Sphagnum Peat Moss
"Vigora" Vermiculite
"Visora" Perlite

} potting soil mix

Willie's graphics

* VERY IMPORTANT !!!



Place prepared soil mix in the bottom of your new container. Gently slide tree roots out of the old container, trimming off any dead roots and detangling any circling roots so that growth into the new pot will not be impeded. *If planting a bare-rooted mail order tree, gently shake the shavings loose from the roots and mix them with the planting mix.* Place the loosened root mass into the new container and gently fill with your fresh planting mix, packing down lightly to remove large air spaces from the root zone. The top of the roots should be just beneath the soil surface, and

* crown roots (root collar area) should show above the soil line. Water deeply. Stake loosely with green tie if needed. It's a good idea to repot every year or so, or when you see roots peeking through drainage holes.

CHARLES MALKI, BIOLOGIST HOLLYWOOD HILLS, CA

COMPOST TEA FOLIAR SPRAY WITHOUT THE COMPOST...

FOLIAR SPRAY/FEED MICRO-NUTRITIONAL SPRAY TO BE USED YEAR ROUND

(can be used as often as desired without burning trees...must dilute 3-5 Tbsp/gal H2O))

1. Let water stand in 5 gal. bucket 3 days before adding nutrients!
2. Use "coarse" spray on spray wand so organisms will not be harmed when sprayed onto plant. DO NOT USE "FINE" MIST SPRAY!

(Compost Tea Foliar Spray without compost is a natural, organic substitute for Natural Compost made of: coffee grounds, food scraps, leaves, cuttings from plants that have been placed in small, rubber garbage pail. Hundreds of nail size holes punched in sides of pail to allow oxygen to permeate into contents of container! Once compost begins to break down, can be added in solid form to plant containers.)

COMPOST TEA WITHOUT COMPOST RECIPE (5 GAL BUCKET):

- a. Alaska Fish Fertilizer
 - b. Neptune Fish & Kelp (Seaweed) Fertilizer
 - c. Dr. Earth Bud & Bloom Fertilizer
 - d. Espoma Organic Granular Citrus Food
 - e. Dynamite Mater Magic Fertilizer
 - f. Agave in the Raw (3 Tbsp. at least!)
3. Add 2-3 Tbsp. of each ingredient to bucket of water that has been standing for at least 72 hrs!
 4. Stir all together.
 5. Add aerator hose with weight attached to its end; submerge into bucket and start pump.
 6. Let bucket sit for 3 days before using!

SPRAYING COMPOST TEA

1. Add 3-5 Tbsp./gal of water so as to dilute compost spray without fear of burning trees!
2. Add 1 gal of H2O to portable sprayer, let sit for 3 days before using, then add 3-5 Tbsp. of Compost mixture to water and spray trees in a coarse spray!!! DO NOT SPRAY ON IN A FINE MIST!!!