



# Know What You Grow!



## Growing Information

### Subtropical

Pomegranate is an exotic fruit that grows on a small tree or shrub 15 to 20 feet tall, with shiny foliage and a long flowering season. They require only a short chilling period. Fruits crack with first fall rains.

### Ideal Planting Window

Spring is the ideal time to plant after the last frost day. Dormant trees can withstand temperatures down to 10°.

### Growing Guidance

The pomegranate requires full sun or a minimum of 6 hours of sunlight a day. Propagated by means of hardwood or softwood cuttings. Hardwood cuttings are the easiest and most satisfactory method. Once established water deeply every 10 to 15 days, they are drought tolerant.

[Ucanr.edu/sites/Pomegranates](http://Ucanr.edu/sites/Pomegranates)

[Growing in the Garden](#)

# Pomegranate

**Scientific Name:** *Punica granatum*

**Recommended Varieties:**

- Ambrosia
- Granada
- Eversweet
- Wonderful

**Common Pests:**

Pomegranate is fairly pest free in the home garden, in commercial areas, Flat mite and Leafrollers can be an issue. Unharvested ripe fruit attract ants and fruit flies.

Master Gardeners Handbook

[UCANR Integrated Pest Management](#)

Photos: Creative Commons



## Interesting Facts

The word pomegranate means apple with many seeds.

Pomegranates are native to the Middle East.

Pomegranates belong to the berry family, and are classified as a super fruit.

Pomegranates do not contain cholesterol or saturated fats.

Pomegranates grown in the United States are typically in season from September to December and can be stored up to 2 months in the refrigerator.

Pomegranate trees grow in hot, dry climates and can live for over 200 years.

One pomegranate can hold more than 1,000 seeds.

Pomegranates were introduced into Spanish American in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Thomas Jefferson planted pomegranates at Monticello in 1771.

The pomegranate contains lots of vitamins such as vitamin A, C, K, and B5.

[Fruidel](#)

For more fun facts: [Seriousfacts](#)

## Contact Information



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**

**EMAIL:** [anrmgriverside@ucanr.edu](mailto:anrmgriverside@ucanr.edu)

**WEBSITE:** <https://ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG/>

## Harvesting and Pruning

Picking can begin in August before the fruit is fully mature. As fruit approaches maturity on the tree it may split, some eventually turning almost inside out.

Pomegranate trees require a small amount of pruning each winter to maintain shape and good bearing surface. Even mature trees send up a number of basal suckers that require removal each year.

## Suggested Uses



### 10 Ways to Make the Most of Fresh Pomegranates

Eat the Seeds Out of Hand

Add Pomegranate Seeds to Drinks

Add Pomegranate Seeds to Avocado Toast

Make a Pomegranate Dip

Serve Pomegranate Seeds with Olives

Add Pomegranate Seeds to Bruschetta

Add Pomegranate Seeds to Salads

Use Pomegranate Seeds to Garnish Meat Dishes

Sprinkle Pomegranate Seeds on Desserts

Make Pomegranate Juice

[Thespruceeats](#)