



Succulents still remain hip, with no end in sight. We carry over 50 varieties, small and large. They are the ultimate easy-care plants fitting in almost anywhere in all manner of containers, nooks and crannies.

## **TREE PRUNING: IS IT NEEDED?**

Having a tree in your yard doesn't make pruning mandatory. Most trees can live their entire lives without ever having to be "trimmed" or limbs removed for any reason other than damage or disease. When choosing a tree to plant, make sure you like the natural shape it will take maturity and give it plenty of room at the planting site to reach its full height and width without obstructions.

If you must trim a tree, now is the time to do it. As temperatures warm, insects become more active and with them the chances of spreading tree diseases increases as they move from tree to tree. For large complicated trim jobs, a professional landscaper should be consulted before anything is done. Mike's Landscaping Services not only plants trees, they trim and remove trees, and can grind the stump and remove any debris left from the pruning job or stack it up for later pick up by the bulk trash truck.

For smaller pruning jobs you can handle yourself with tools available at Mike's Garden Centers.





The peach is the leading deciduous tree fruit grown commercially in Texas and it is also the most popular fruit for the backyard. And the reason for that is simple; we have great varieties for all areas of our vast state. Not only do these varieties grow well, but the taste of the fruit is truly outstanding. “Texas grown” peaches taste like the ones you remember from “back home”.

A major attraction for peaches in the landscape is their magnificent spring blossom show. Not all peach blossoms are alike. Among the common pink single-flowered varieties, some have large, attractive ‘showy’ flower petals while others have almost unnoticeable petals. There are even a few double-flowered varieties.

Trees need full sun to grow and produce quality fruit. Less than full sun means reduced production by the tree. Peach trees optimally need 12 to 24 inches of well-drained soil for the best growth. If your soil is extremely shallow and rocky or poorly drained, your trees would benefit from a raised bed. If you “mound” soil or install raised beds be sure to use native soil-organic potting mix can stimulate late season growth resulting in potential freeze damage.

Peach trees can reach heights of 10 to 20 feet with a limb spread of 15 To 20 feet, while producing one to two bushels of peaches per year. One bushel of peaches weighs about 48 pounds and will make 18 to 24 quarts of canned peaches. One tree will pollinate itself, but you may want to have peaches over an extended period of time so two varieties might suit you better.

Some of the best varieties include:

**Redskin**- large, freestone fruit that ripens in mid-July. Showy flowers.

**Elberta**- large, freestone fruit that ripens in mid- July with long-standing proven production record.

**Red Haven**- large, semi-freestone, high quality fruit. Top commercial peach.

**Early Elberta**- Large, freestone fruit with a deep yellow color and a red blush. Rich, sweet flavor, better than Elberta variety that ripens in early July.

**Hale Haven**- Large, freestone fruit that has light green skin with a red blush. Flesh is firm, juicy and has a great flavor. Ripens in early July.

There are dwarf varieties of these full-size trees that are nice for espalier of patio plants or small yards of courtyards also. Come to Mike's and let us get you started growing your own fruit for quality and flavor!

## FRUIT TREES START AT \$29.99 AND UP



We are never going to give up on looking for Sammy. If anyone has any information or has seen him, please call Mike's Garden Center 817-293-8800. He was last seen in the Edgecliff area near the Fort Worth store. There is a reward for Sammy. It is time for his yearly check-up and he is missed dearly.

## SPRING PLANTING GUIDE

Variety	Planting Depth	Sowing Date	Days to Germination	Soil Temp F°	Plants "	Rows"	Days to Maturity	Family of 4 (typical growing season)	Seeds per Oz.	Seeds per 100' row
Asparagus	4"	Jan-Feb	10	75	14	28	720+	40	750	1 oz
Bean Bush	1.5"	May-June	7	80	18	18		plants	100	.5 lb
Bean Vine	1.5"	May-Jun	7	80	4	30		25' row	100	.5 lb

Beets	.5"	March-July	4	85	4	18	50+	25' row	1500	1 oz
Broccoli	1"	Apr-June	4	80	24	30	70+	15' row	9000	.25 oz
Cabbage	.5"	Apr-May	4	85	24	30	40+	15' row	8500	.25 oz
Carrots	.5"	Jan-Aug	6	80	3	18	70+	15	25000	.5 oz
Cauliflower	.5"	Jan-June	5	80	15	28	100+	plants	10000	.25 oz
Corn	1"	Apr-May	5	95	3	24	65+	30' row	75	.4 lb
Cucumber	1"	Apr-July	3	95	36	40	60+	15	1000	.5 oz
Eggplant	.5"	April-June	6	85	24	36	60+	plants	6000	50
Gourds	.5"	April-May	10	80	48	60	50+	75	1000	plants
Kale	.25"	May-July	4	80	18	24	80+	plants	8700	.25 oz
Leek	.25"	March-May	7	80	6	24	100+	6 plants	11000	.25 oz
Lettuce	.25"	Feb-Oct	3	75	10	20	55+	6 plants	25000	.5 oz
Melon	1"	Mar-Apr	4	80	36	36	120+	varies	1000	.25 oz
Mustard	.25"	Apr-Sept	8	75	6	12	55+	20' row	15000	.5 oz
Okra	1.5"	Apr-Sept	6	95	18	36	85+	10' row	500	.25 oz
Onions	.5"	Feb-Apr	6	75	3	15	35+	15' row	8000	2 oz
Peas	1.5"	Mar-June	6	75	5	36	55+	varies	120	1 oz
Peppers	.5"	Jan-May	8	85	24	24	90+	10' row	4500	1 lb
Pumpkins	3"	Apr-June	4	90	6	36	60+	15' row	180	50
Radish	.5"	Mar-Aug	4	85	2	20	75+	40' row	2500	plants
Spinach	.5"	Mar-July	5	70	6	16	90+	40' row	2800	.5 oz
Squash	1"	Mar-Apr	4	95	36	36	30+	10	250	1 oz
Strawberry	.125"	Dec-Feb	10	80	18	36	45+	plants	70000	1 oz
Tomatoes	.5"	Jan-May	6	85	32	32	65+	3 plants	11000	.75 oz
Turnip	1.5"	Mar-Aug	3	85	3	24	120+	4' row	15000	1
Watermelon	1"	Mar-Apr	4	95	72	72	70+	20' row	350	gram
							45+	3 plants		50
							110+	2 plants		plants
								15		.5 oz
								plants		.75 oz
								15' row		
								6 plants		