



# The Fruit Growers of Southwest Florida

**FEBRUARY 2021**

**Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club Meeting will be February 9, 2021.  
Workshop: Tuesday, February 23, 2021.**



Location: Newport Animal Hospital  
Corner of Old Route 41 and Bernwood Drive  
25100 Bernwood Dr., Bonita Springs, FL 34135  
Please always observe the wearing of masks and social distancing.  
Please remember to pay your 2021 renewal dues: \$15/ individual, \$25/ family

**Please always observe the wearing of masks and social distancing.**



Steve Cucura will be the guest speaker at the February Meeting of the Collier Fruit Growers. Steve is the owner of Fruitscapes, which is the supplier for our semi-annual Fruit Tree Sales. His nursery is a compilation of fruit trees readily available in southeast Florida. With fruit, organic vegetables, and preserves under the chickee hut, a u-pick option and a well-maintained orchard, a trip to the nursery is highly recommended. There are often baked goods and freshly cooked food items available at the chickee hut. With prior permission, viable scion cuttings may be obtained for grafting. In preparation for our tree sale on Saturday, February 27th, Steve will summarize the warm weather fruit trees which are best suited for Southwest Florida.



**Collier Fruit Growers' NEXT Meeting:  
TUESDAY, February 16, 2021.  
The meeting starts at 7:15 pm.  
Life Center, Tree of Life Church  
2132 Shadowlawn Dr., Naples, FL 34112**

**Please remember that it is time to pay your \$15.00 renewal dues for 2021  
Please mail dues to: CFG, Inc. 1944 Piccadilly Circus, Naples, FL 34112**

**FRUIT TREE SALE**  
9 am to 2 pm February 27, 2021

Sponsored By:  
**Collier Fruit Growers**  
AT FREEDOM PARK  
1515 GOLDEN GATE PARKWAY  
NAPLES, FL  
MANY VARIETIES, SIZES, AND PRICING TO MEET YOUR NEED AND BUDGET. COME EARLY FOR THE BEST CHOICE BEFORE THE INVENTORY IS SOLD OUT!

## **RECIPE OF THE MONTH:**

# **Moroccan Preserved Lemons**

These are the essential ingredient in many Middle Eastern stews. They are also good when finely chopped and tossed with pasta, garlic, and olive oil. To make a salad dressing: In a blender jar combine about half a preserved lemon, ¼ cup olive oil, juice of half a lemon, ½ teaspoon cumin, and ¼ teaspoon each of salt and pepper. Blend until combined. Taste to adjust seasonings.

Makes: 32 Servings

Preparation time 15 minutes    Chill: 4 weeks

### **Ingredients:**

6 Meyer lemons, divided  
 ½ cup kosher salt  
 ½ teaspoon fennel seeds, crushed  
 ½ teaspoon coriander seeds, crushed  
 1 cinnamon stick, 2 to 3-inches long  
 2 fresh bay leaves  
 1 whole dried red hot chile pepper or ½ teaspoon of red pepper flakes  
 1 teaspoon whole black peppercorns

### **Instructions:**

Cut 4 of the lemons into quarters from tips to within ½-inch of the stem ends. Combine salt, fennel, and coriander. Toss lemons with the salt mixture, packing salt into the cut edges. Bring sections together to reform each lemon and pack into a sterilized quart-size canning jar along with any of the remaining salt mixture, cinnamon stick, bay leaves, chile pepper, and peppercorns.

Juice the remaining two lemons. Pour the juice over the lemon quarters in the jar; seal the jar.

Refrigerate for one week, tipping or gently shaking the jar once a day. Refrigerate for three more weeks. Finally rinse lemons before using.

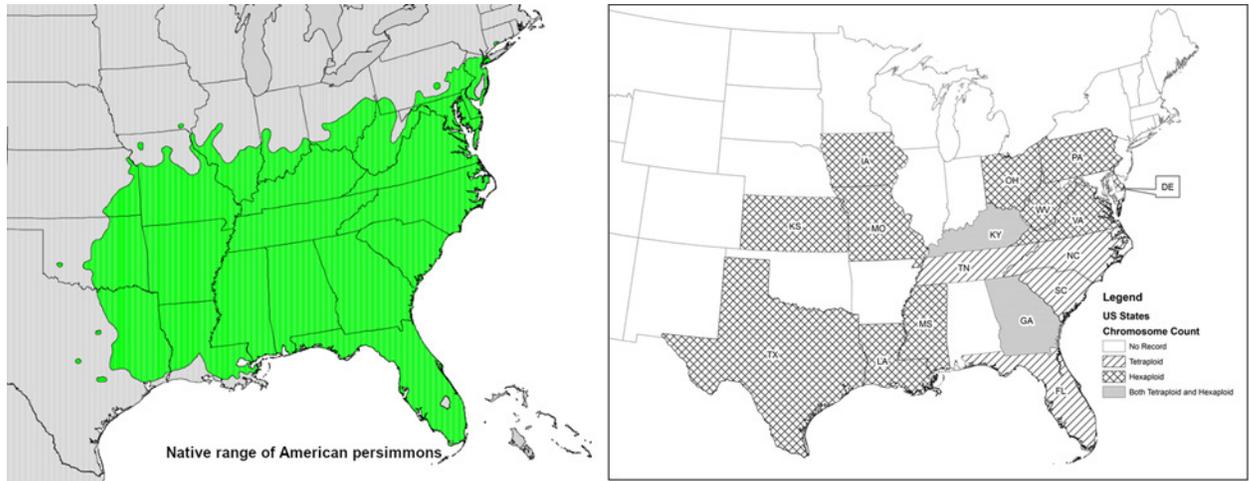
**Recipe source:** [publix.com/apons](http://publix.com/apons)



## Hybrid Persimmons in South Florida by Eric Bina

### American Persimmons (*Diospyros virginiana*)

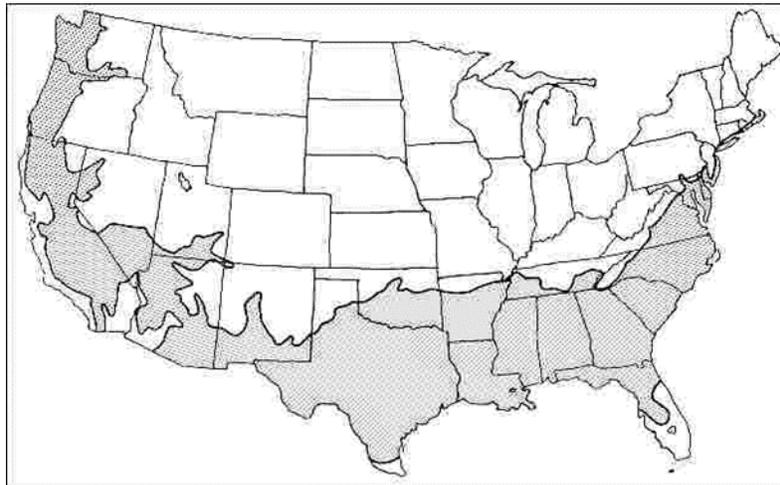
They are divided within their range into hexaploid (90 chromosome) and tetraploid (60 chromosome) trees.



Most of the named cultivars are hexaploid, although there are a few selected tetraploid varieties. Hexaploid cross pollinated with tetraploid usually produce seedless fruit. Many of the named cultivars will produce seedless fruit in the absence of any pollinator.

### Asian Persimmons (*Diospyros kaki*)

Asian persimmons are grown world-wide and have much larger fruit. But they tolerate a narrower climate range. The map below shows their usual accepted range in the U.S.



### Growing Range of Asian Persimmons in the U.S.

When Asian Persimmons are grown in the southern reaches of Texas and Florida, the trees survive, but they don't get reliable fruit. This is thought to be because their chilling requirements are not met. Some varieties have been selected for southern Florida, such as 'Winterset', 'Triumph', and 'South Florida' (The variety 'South Florida' is also thought to be called 'Hudson'). Other varieties, such as 'Suruga' are supposed to have very low chilling requirements, but I have seen no direct reports

of it doing well in south Florida and Univ. of FL marks it as not recommended for commercial production.

Crafton knows of a 'Hudson' named by Frank Smathers of the prior Four Fillier Farm in Coconut Grove, he also reports that Richard Campbell suspects 'Hudson' to be the same as 'Sheng'.

In 2014 it was reported that, "there is a persimmon tree var. Hudson aka South FL at Fairchild Gardens, just outside the Whitman pavilion to the right."

### Hybrids (*Diospyros kaki* x *D. virginiana*)

Since the early 1970s people in the U.S. have tried and failed to cross these two, even though they are both Hexaploid. According to information from the Nikita Botanical Gardens in Russia, they have successful hybrids developed by A. K. Pasenkov (the secret of his success supposedly died with him). From these two, were named and released in the early 1990s: 'Rosseyanka', and 'Nikitskaya Bordovaya'. These hybrids made it to the U.S. and have been back crossed with both *D. kaki* and *D. virginiana*. As far as I know, all these hybrids have been selected for cold hardiness to push the area where one can grow kaki persimmons further north.

Since *D. virginiana* can also fruit further south than *D. kaki*, I wonder if these hybrids could also be used to push kaki growing further south.

# FRUIT TREE SALE

9 am  
to  
2 pm

February 27, 2021





**Sponsored By:**

## Collier Fruit Growers

**AT FREEDOM PARK  
1515 GOLDEN GATE PARKWAY  
NAPLES, FL**

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MEET YOUR NEED AND BUDGET. COME EARLY  
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## HEIRLOOM KAKI PERSIMMONS-WHERE ARE THEY?

The Department of Agriculture Yearbook for 1890 contained articles and color plates for two cultivars of Kaki that were, that year, declared to be true to name. They were 'Zengi' and 'Tsuru'. 'Zengi' is a monoecious variety, having both male and female flowers on the same tree. 'Tsuru' has only female flowers and is easy to recognize because it is the longest fruit of any Kaki persimmon. Long and slender fruit (2 x 3! inches) as its variety name in Japanese indicates. (Tsuru, a crane)

The Yearbook for 1891 declared that the two varieties 'Dai Dai Maru', and 'Yama Tsuru' were true to name. Colored prints of these two varieties were included with the statistics for the two cultivars in the Department of Agriculture Yearbook for 1891. Also in this Yearbook for 1891 was an article as follows:

"Fifteen varieties were received from the Minister of Agriculture of Japan. These had been collected with great care, and in accordance with our request, from different parts of the Japanese empire. Some of them have not been previously imported to this country and are said to be among the hardiest varieties known in Japan. Others were standard varieties which are already growing here"

"There were two trees of each of the following kinds:

**Saijio (si-zho)** - the name of the town in the province of AKI.

**Tsuru-Magari** - meaning curved horn.

**Zenji (Zengy)** - is the name of a county in the state of Shimuzuki.

**Wase-Hira** - Wase means early, and Hira means flat.

**Kuro-Kuma** - (Koo-ro-koo-ma) Kura beans black, Kuma bear.

**Shimo-Maru** - Shimo means frost, and Maru round. (Will endure frost)

**Daijyo-in (Di-zho-in)**- the name of a temple.

**Hassaku (Has-sack-oo)** - Refers to the time of year corresponding to Aug. 1, the time for women to celebrate worship to the God of work.

**Tsuru-no-ko (Tsoo-roo-no-ko)** - meaning the young of the crane.

**Hachiya (Ha-chee-ya)** - Name of a county in the state of Mino.

**Yemon (A-mon)** - This word is the name of a badge that is worn on clothing.

**Uza-yemon (oo-za-a-mon)** - Uza, the name of a man who originated a variety closely resembling Yemon or perhaps a seedling from Yemon.

**Hiyakume (Hya-koo-may)** - This is one of the most common varieties in Japan and will be found described in my report for 1889. There is a difference of opinion among the Japanese as to the meaning of this name: some saying that it has reference to the fruit weighing 100 "me, which is a unit of Japanese weight; and others say that it means 100 eyes, referring to the abundant and peculiar eye-like marks near the apex of the fruit.

**Yedo-Ichi (Yed-o-Ich-y)** - This is another popular variety that has also been described in the report of 1889. The translation of the name is Yedo's best. Yedo is an early name of Tokyo.

**Tanenashi (Ta-ny-nash-y)** - Tane meaning seeds, and Nashi means without; the name therefore signifies seedless, which it almost is. It never has any male flowers. "This is one of the best varieties in cultivation and is described in the report of 1887."

The Department of Agriculture Yearbook for 1892 had a colored print of the beautiful old variety 'Costata', together with the statistics covering this variety. "The 'Costata' tree is such an upright

grower, with broad, roundish leaves, and with a most distinctive form, that this cultivar was used frequently in landscaping. The fruit of 'Costata' is also most attractive with 4 quadrant lines running into its base. A medium sized Kaki with a conical almost heart shaped apex. Surface is smooth, salmon yellow, rarely cracked, flesh yellow with few seeds, astringent until ripe; very late variety, and it keeps well. The French and the Italians have made 'Costata' a separate species of Diospyros, but the botanists in all the rest of the world believe it is simply a variety of Kaki, all be it, a most distinctive and beautiful one. A Bonafide Heirloom Oriental persimmon--that should be a must in every Kaki buff's collection."

There is an article and colored print of the old Chinese variety 'Tamopan' in the 1910 Department of Agriculture Yearbook. This writer does not have this Yearbook in his collection, unfortunately, and was not able to locate a copy. Tamopan is the Chinese word meaning grindstone, and they use them by the hundreds as our grandfathers did also, to sharpen all tools that need to have a cutting edge. The Chinese used old fashioned cement-like round wheels set up in tricycle fashion. These cement wheels eventually would wear a ridge around the entire surface of the wheels from much usage. The Chinese thought the ripe 'Tamopan' persimmon with its equatorial ridge, looked like their grindstone wheels, so they named this persimmon 'Tamopan', their word for grindstone. This is a large persimmon, on occasion weighing one pound or more. 'Tamopan' has a tough skin which allows it to ship well. This variety usually does not need a pollinator, as it has a high degree of parthenocarpic ability. It is a pollination constant variety, so no dark flesh will appear, whether seeded or not seeded. Form is broadly oblate with a constriction or ridge around the center, surface smooth, orange-red in color. Flesh meaty, light colored; flavor astringent until the fruit is fully ripe, then rich and sweet. The tree is a strong upright grower. A really fine Heirloom cultivar.

The 1912 Yearbook contained a colored print of the Kaki variety 'Ormond', together with its history. This variety was not imported, but was developed from a seedling in the vicinity of Ormond Beach, Florida. This cultivar is a small to medium astringent variety that becomes very sweet when fully ripe. It is a pollination constant variety and has flesh of a very deep orange color. This cultivar is considered to be the latest ripening variety of all Kaki persimmons, and fruit can be picked the last of January in Central and Southern Florida. The late season and long keeping qualities of the fruit, together with its heavy and regular bearing proclivities, and its pleasing dessert quality, make it a variety among the Oriental persimmons having quite unusual characteristics. Qualities that are needed in the gene pool of our Heirloom persimmons.

In the late 1870's Gen. H. S. Sanford bought some Kaki persimmons for his place near Sanford, Florida. The budded or grafted top of one of these trees proved to be dead but the stock below the point of union was alive. It was rejected by the owner but carried home and planted by an employee. A sprout grew from the roots and from it a tree was budded. The original stock died, but the budded tree thrived and became the source from which the cultivar now much grown in Central and South Florida was propagated. About 15 wilding trees which came up in the orange grove of a Mrs. Kennedy were budded to this variety.

This variety was first propagated by a nursery at Eustis, Florida owned by G. H. Norton, and he named this new variety 'Triumph', possibly because it had triumphed over such long odds that it would not live. The date was sometime before 1887. This variety is pictured in the Department of Agriculture Yearbook for the year 1913, together with its statistics. 'Triumph' is a small flat, dark red persimmon that is usually a tremendous bearer of fruit over a very long season from August through November in

Central Florida. It is a great variety for the backyard grower because of its long bearing season, and its extremely sweet fruit. 'Triumph' is a must for the Heirloom persimmon list.

This was the last year that the Department of Agriculture published their beautiful colored prints of the Oriental persimmon varieties, and the articles about their history and their vital statistics.

Old United States Department of Agriculture Yearbooks that contain the beautiful life-sized colored prints of the old persimmon varieties, together with articles on their history and their characteristics, can sometimes be found in the second-hand bookstores in the large cities, and also occasionally in the flea markets scattered around the country. And again, some book dealers in the large cities such as New York and Chicago, will make searches for special used books. Anyway, these old yearbooks are quite rare, but are still possible to find, and for the fruit lovers they are real jewels.

There are a great many varieties of Heirloom persimmon varieties that have faded from obscurity, and for all practical purposes have become lost to cultivation mainly because they required pollination by a staminate (male) variety, and when this was accomplished, the persimmon would become seeded, and the flesh would then turn brown around the seeds. They were mostly pollination variant varieties, which means the flesh will turn brown if seeded. The brown flesh is just as good and sweet as the clear flesh, maybe better, because the brown flesh is never astringent, and the clear flesh usually is until it softens. 'Fuyu', 'Suruga', 'Jira', and 'Izu' are exceptions to this rule, as they have clear flesh and still have little or no astringency, seeded or unseeded and are called pollination constants. Even so, these varieties need a pollinizer such as 'Zengy' or 'Gailey', as they have a low parthenocarpic ability. Also the seeds that will form when they are pollinized mean that they will hang on the tree better and longer. When seeds are produced in Kaki, hormones that help the fruit cling to the tree are also produced.

### **NOTES:**

The Department of Agriculture Yearbooks 1889 – 1940 are described at the link below:  
<http://www.saveseeds.org/library/holdings/yoa.html>

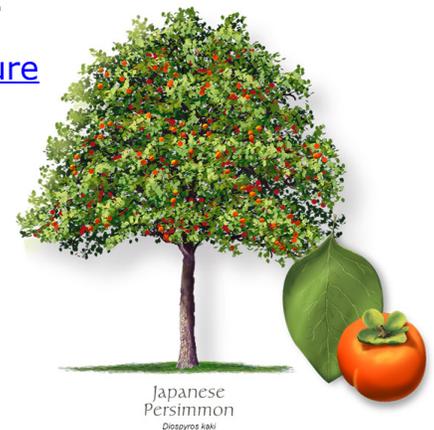
Most of the Yearbooks can be found at the following internet address:

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=Yearbook+of+the+United+States+Department+of+Agriculture>

Early Yearbooks can be access through the following address:

<https://naldclegacy.nal.usda.gov/naldc/search.xhtml?start=0&seriesFacet=Report+of+the+Secretary+of+Agriculture>

Source: July 1985 Pomona  
 John F. Kwasny  
 Big Sandy, TN



## Listening to the Trees by Deana Bess

Plants, and really all of nature will teach us if we learn to speak their languages. As I continue to hone my listening skills, I find many learning opportunities for myself and others.

In 2017, Hurricane Irma jolted me from my propensity for ignoring pruning issues. In spite of my training and past experience, I tended to avoid some of the more challenging problems. While it is super easy to choose well pruned trees in the young stages, I had some older trees that were either in the process of pruning corrections or being let go completely. We had so very many trees and I figured nature would prevail; oh, it did! And we had a lot more damage than we would have if I had been more diligent about pruning correctly.

We recently purchased a property in NW Arkansas in the Boston Mountain Range and Ozark St. Francis National Forest area. When we first looked at this Arkansas property, I saw immediately some issues I would need to address with weed control, root flares, and pruning. In fact, some so drastic, several trees I knew would need to simply be removed as they are too far gone from improper planting and/or pruning.

Last weekend, we had a light ice storm that weighed down the trees considerably. The ice was actually quite beautiful, but I knew the potential for significant damage. I am grateful there was not more damage and hope we can correct some problems before another weather event. Since this is absolutely not the time of year I want to be pruning, I am vigorously developing a plan to address these problems as early as possible. Unfortunately, a cherry tree on our property completely split and we began the removal process; I wanted to share the photos and details so that you all might learn from this example.



First, the plastic landscape fabric and rock "mulch" have not prevented weeds as intended but have prevented the soil from adequate air flow, inhibited balanced microbial activity, and caused the trees and surrounding plants to be nutrient deficient. I suspect the areas have been sprayed with glyphosate regularly which I can mitigate a bit but likely that will take many years. Plants need four elements, in proper balance, to be healthy: light, water, air, and nutrients. Plastic landscape fabric and use of glyphosate prevents balance in the soil. Weeds tell stories about the soil, it's structure, and nutrients present. Whenever I can, I'll let them grow to learn from them. My absolute favorite reference for this process is called "When Weeds Talk" by Jay L. McCaman. In walkways and areas where plants are not present or desired, I simply kill weeds with vinegar, soap, and essential oils in a mix I find works for that space and based on the area and sunlight. I have yet to develop my mix here for this climate but the recipes I used in

Florida should work fine as a start. You may find those by searching online. This recipe has nothing toxic and works just as long as the toxic herbicides do without the risks; I know this because I experimented years ago when I first experienced the consequences of using chemicals.

Second, this tree was not pruned properly so because the tree was already weakened by the heart rot inside, the weakest of the three competing branches eventually split the tree. Two of my favorite references for pruning are Pamela Crawford's "Stormscaping" and Lee Reich's "The Pruning Book".



See how these three branches were competing and the weakest tore from the tree with the weight of the ice. The same might happen in SWFL with heavy wind and rain.

Third, one more problem that led to the death of this tree was the strangled root flare. Monkey grass and possibly some other plants that died in winter had been planted around the base of the tree covering the already too suffocated root flare that is the cornerstone of any healthy tree. You can read more details about the importance of root flare at [www.dirtdoctor.com](http://www.dirtdoctor.com) in the library section.



This is the suffocating monkey grass and landscape fabric, also a good view of the heart rot.



The rot was like compost already! No way the tree could absorb and use nutrients well but not visible from the outside and no funguses or mushrooms to indicate issues.

I am grateful this tree expired early on as I would have likely spent a lot of time and money trying to mitigate the outward problems I could see not knowing inside, the tree was already dead. The heart wood of this tree was rotted and the part of the tree that moved water and minerals to feed the tree was already decreased far beyond healing.

While Shawn and I traveled all over the US, we saw many plants communicating stress all over the country; the stressors, mostly created by "professional" gardeners and landscapers, were what I would call an epidemic of human errors. I wanted to take the time to share this detail so you can clearly see the consequences of improper weed control, root flare exposure, and correct pruning.

As for mitigating the previous use of glyphosate and other toxic substances, I will apply activated charcoal and zeolite to the entire area after I remove the rocks and landscape fabric. Then I will begin a mulching, composting, compost tea regimen and verify progress with observations, and testing (microbial, soil nutrient, and soil structure). Microbes are amazing and worms have been said to clean up even the most toxic substances. The actual testing for glyphosate is costly and I have yet to send samples in. Glyphosate (Round Up™) actually prevents plants from absorbing nutrients properly, accumulates in the soil, and some studies show it still present in soil and water after 50+ years. The interesting part is that I believe this product is being rebranded with a new name but in general, if you want to avoid unintended consequences, simply do not use toxic substances. The references for these truths are numerous but mostly not mainstream or common; I would guess that is because the agriculture, pharmaceutical, and government industries have much to lose should too many people change their behaviors. In my 51 years, I have learned to question more and believe less of what is mainstream; truth, if I can find it, never changes. I think my favorite references are *Fateful Harvest* by Duff Wilson and also Perdue University Dr. Don Huber's You Tube videos on glyphosate. I suppose I am more passionate about this glyphosate issue as of late. I recently learned of several loved ones who have suffered or are suffering the consequences of simply being near those using glyphosate. I recently also learned, while a very close family member never used glyphosate, because so many farmers around his farm used it, he suffered and died from the type of cancer known to be caused by glyphosate but was not eligible for the lawsuit benefits because he did not directly use the chemical. According to the lawyers, the cancer supposedly begins as skin cancer and then develops into lymphoma; it breaks my heart and I hope it breaks yours enough that you speak up and/or stop supporting the use of glyphosate through purchase and/or use!

## Attempts to Propagate of Cashew Trees from Cuttings

Theoretically, it should be possible to propagate any plant by cutting that can be propagated by air-layering. Cashew trees (*Anacardium occidentale*) lie in this category, but the establishment of a satisfactory technique can only be described as 'half-hearted' attempts.

L. H. Bailey's *Standard Cyclopaedia of Horticulture* (Published by Macmillan, New York, 1927) states that under 'controlled temperature conditions' cuttings consisting of mature wood with their leaves retained have been rooted under glass. Propagation trials conducted in Jamaica reported that attempts were made to root both hard and semi-hardwoods without success. It has been concluded that the cuttings were leafless, as it was recorded that the cuttings started to leaf-out after two weeks. Further trials in both India and Tanzania failed. Current commercialized methods included tissue-culture as well as traditional grafting and air-layering. It, therefore, appears that there have been no concerted recent attempts using root softwood cashew cuttings under mist or within a sealed water-retaining plastic film. Additional trials by novice fruit growers are warranted and need to be reported.



## Fruits that Ripen in February

Avocado, banana, black sapote, canistel, carambola, citrus, coconut, guava, macadamia nut, mamey sapote, papaya, sapodilla, soursop.

Annual Fruits: Eggplant, winter squash (Cushaw/Seminole pumpkin), pigeon pea, bell pepper, tomato.

## **Propagation of Soursop (*Annona muricata*) from Cuttings** **Member Participation is requested.**

On page 235 of *'The Propagation of Tropical Fruit Trees'* (published by the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, Farnham Royal, Slough, England in 1976), D. O'D. Bourke, of the Commonwealth Bureau of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, as attributed to Julia F. Morton, (*Proceedings of the Florida State Horticulture Society, 1966-67*) it states that "Soursop is easily propagated by cuttings." Members are encouraged to assist in confirming this claim during the first seven months of 2021. The exact methods and results should be reported to the Collier Fruit Growers via their Facebook Page. The choice of material from the parent plant should be carefully selected as presented by Robert John Garner, formerly of the East Malling Research Station, Maidstone, Kent, England, as follows:

"The age, shape and size of the cutting will decide the initial form produced and directly affect its early growth pattern and value for field planting. Some plants exhibit two distinct types of shoots, known as fans (horizontal plagiotropic) and chupons (vertical orthotropic). Cuttings of fan shoots normally continue to produce only fan shoots, while chupons give rise to erect plants. Vertical shoot development can often be obtained in established fan-form plants by hard cut back, but it is simpler to select erect cuttings at the start. Moreover, it is generally found that erect vigorous shoots root more readily than fans. The periodical hard pruning of cutting-source plants, advocated above, will greatly increase the production of straight vertical shoots for efficient propagation."

The logical time of the year to attempt propagation is late February into March when the new flushing of leaves is about to occur with the warmer weather. As soursops are deciduous in southern Florida, growth of the trees will be more active at that time. Knowing that vitality of the shoots will vary among individual trees, multiple examples must be undertaken to determine the validity of Julia Morton's claim. Propagation of freshly cut chupons should be attempted, with and without rooting powder, in both sandy soil with a high pH and in 'nursery' soil (1/3 perlite, 1/3 topsoil, 1/3 compost/manure mixture). Water daily until there is substantial rainfall, which may not occur until well into July.

Members are asked to post their finds to Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CollierFruitGrowers/>

It was also reported in the same 1976 British publication that there has been some success in propagating other fruit trees from cuttings, as follows:

- Sweetsop – Propagation trials resulted in a 2 to 3% success rate.
- Breadfruit – Propagation was repeatedly successful when cuttings were 'handled with care.'
- Papaya – Propagation trials were found to be marginally successful.
- Rose-Apple – India: Propagation trials netted approximately 20% success rate.
- Samarang Rose-Apple – Trials were not successful but should consider placing under mist.
- Malay Rose-Apple – Trials were not successful but should consider placing under mist.
- Surinam Cherry – Algeria: Propagation trials were successful.
- Mangosteen – Propagation was successful when cuttings were placed under mist.
- Langsat – Propagation was greater than 50% successful when cuttings were 'handled with care.'
- Guava – Trinidad: Propagation trials using green 'stem' cuttings were 90% successful.
- Jujube – Propagation trials were reportedly successful only with the 'Jujube Mill (?)' variety.

### **Notes:**

1. More recent propagation trials have most likely been conducted those results are not available.
2. The definition of "handled with care" was not provided.



# Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club



## Who We Are & What We Do

The Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club, Inc., is an educational not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to inform, educate and advise members and the public in the selection of plants and trees, to encourage their cultivation, and to provide a social forum where members can freely exchange plant material and information. The club cooperates with many organizations, and provides a basis for producing new cultivars. We function in any legal manner to further the above stated aims.

### General Meeting:

General meeting, that include an educational program, are held the *second Tuesday* of each month. General meetings begin at **6:15 pm for social time**, and the **speakers begin promptly at 7 pm.**

### Workshops:

Workshops (monthly discussions) are held on the *fourth Tuesday* of each month at **7 PM** at the Revive Magazine, when practical. This open format encourages discussion and sharing of fruits and information. Bring in your fruits, plants, seeds, leaves, insects, photos, recipes, ect.. This is a great chance to get answers to specific questions, and there always seems to be a local expert on hand!

### Tree Sales:

Semi-annual tree sales in FEBRUARY and February, in the Bonita Springs area, raise revenue for educational programs for club members and other related purposes of the club.

### Trips:

The club occasionally organizes trips and tours of other organizations that share our interests. The IFAS Experimental Station and the Fairchild Nursery Farm are examples of our recent excursions.

### Membership:

Dues are \$15 per person for new members, and \$25 per household. Name tags are \$6 each. Send checks to: PO Box 367791, Bonita Springs, FL 34136, or bring to any regularly scheduled meeting.



# Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club



Feel free to join BSTFC on **our Facebook group**, where you can post pictures of your plants, ask advice, and find out about upcoming events!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BSTFC/>

Link to the **next meeting**: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BSTFC/events/>  
**Meetup** Link (events/meetings sync with the calendar on your phone!):

<https://www.meetup.com/Bonita-Springs-Tropical-Fruit-Club/>

Our **Website** (and newsletters with tons of info):  
<https://www.BonitaSpringsTropicalFruitClub.com/>

#### Officers and Board of Directors:

Jorge Sanchez, President  
Luis Garrido, Vice President  
Dwain Kiddo, Treasurer  
Talitha DeLuco, Secretary  
Crafton Clift, Director  
Lisa Mesmer, Director  
George Kaladiny, Director



**Like Us on Facebook!** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BSTFC/>

## 2021 CFG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Collier Fruit Growers Inc. (CFG) is an active organization dedicated to inform, educate and advise its members as well as the public, as to the propagation of the many varieties of fruits that can be grown in Collier County. The CFG is also actively engaged in the distribution of the many commonly grown fruits, as well as the rare tropical and subtropical fruits grown throughout the world. CFG encourages its members to extend their cultivation by providing a basis for researching and producing new cultivars and hybrids, whenever possible. CFG functions without regard to race, color or national origin.

### REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

#### OFFICERS:

President, Rodger Taylor - 239-384-9630  
Bonnie Hawkins, Vice President  
Melissa Parsons, Treasurer  
Lisa Hare, Secretary

#### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Crafton Clift, Director  
Micah Bishop, Director  
Jorge Sanchez, Director  
Lisa White, Director



VISIT US AT:  
[www.collierfruit.org](http://www.collierfruit.org)



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