



Urban Harvest Mark Calendar for April 12 Fruit Tree Shopping

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Avoid waiting in line. You can pick up your fruit trees at the Saturday, April 12, Urban Harvest Farmers Market at Eastside Street Fruit Tree Sale.

and red flesh - is worth the peel. In the ground, citrus make great privacy screens. Plant them in containers and you can move them close by so you never miss a day of delightful fragrance from their small, white blossoms.

At the final sale, we'll be offering two new blueberries, Misty and Sunshine Blue. Both are Southern Highbush with low 150 chill hours. Both yield rich, sweet berries and are self-pollinating, but you'll see better production if you have both to cross-pollinate.

Misty is an early-season producer and Sunshine Blue is mid- to late-season. Having both extends harvest time. Blueberries, like many fruit-bearing plants, are deciduous and provide fall color, though for Gulf Coast gardens that usually means December and January.

For those wanting to add fruit trees to your garden but hesitated braving the chilly weather and long lines of the January Urban Harvest fruit tree sale, next Saturday is the last chance to make those purchases. Fair, fruity and final is the forecast for the Saturday, April 12, Urban Harvest Farmers Market at Eastside Street.

The last market fruit tree sale for the year promises not to disappoint. Arrive early, before 9 a.m., if you're looking for Satsumas, oranges and blueberries. What's easier and sweeter than early-ripening, zipper-peel, seedless Brown Select Satsuma?

Not much, but [Cara Cara Pink](#) navel orange and Moro blood orange will make you think twice. Though not as easy to peel, their sweetness - Cara Cara with its hint of grapefruit and pink flesh, and Moro with its hint of berries



Pick up your citrus tree at next weekend's Saturday market and you'll be able to enjoy the fragrance of their spring blossoms.



Put soft, ripe persimmons in the freezer, then slice and eat like persimmon

If you shopped last month's market fruit tree sale, you may want to return this month. There will be exciting fruits not offered at the last sale — calamondins, kumquats, Key limes, Meyer lemons, olives, pears, persimmons and pumelos. There's not a bad apple in the bunch (I had to say it). All are fairly low-maintenance trees and prolific producers of fruit.

Like the citrus, the evergreen olive can be used as a visual screen in the landscape and its gray/green leaves lend a unique color to the

garden. The deciduous pear gives a beautiful spring floral display and fall color, which again, appears closer to winter in Houston. The persimmon's flowers appear after the leaves in spring so they are not as showy. It more than makes up for it in the fall (really fall) when leaves

drop as the fruit matures, leaving dozens of bright orange fruit hanging for months.

Below is a list of fruit to be sold and their prices. All fruit are in 3-gallon containers. See you at the market.



Persimmons hang from the tree like small orange lanterns after the foliage has dropped.

More Information

Temperate

- Blueberry: Misty, Sunshine Blue \$24
- Fig: LSU Gold, LSU Purple \$19
- Olive: Arbequina \$40
- Peach: Mid-Pride, Saturn \$30
- Pear: Acres Home (10) \$30
- Persimmon: Saijo (astringent), Sarugo (non-astring.) \$38

Citrus

- Calamondin: (Flying Dragon) \$42
- Grapefruit: Bloomsweet (Carrizo) \$42
- Kumquat: ChangSou (Trifoliolate) \$42
- Lemon: Improved Meyer (Trifoliolate) \$42
- Lime: Key (Flying Dragon) \$42
- Orange: Cara Cara Navel, Moro (Carrizo) \$42
- Pummelo: Hirado (Carrizo) \$42
- Satsuma: Brown Select (Trifoliolate) \$42

Photos courtesy of Picasa

This column is produced by Urban Harvest. Learn about gardening classes, community gardens and orchards, farmers' markets and more at www.urbanharvest.org.