

Citrus Care



Special Care of Citrus Splitzers®

We have taken care to combine varieties that should match each other in vigour so that both sides of your Citrus Splitzer® are successful. You will need to keep an eye on the amount of fruit bearing on each side of your plant. If this is uneven it would be best to thin down the side with the most set fruit so they match each other.

The different varieties will begin flowering and growing at slightly different times. So the time to gauge whether any action is necessary is after the spring flush and flowering is finished in the December January period. By this time the excess fruitlets the set but were over and above the ability of the plant to carry should have dropped off naturally. Refer to the pruning and nutrition section for further hints on keeping a healthy and even Citrus Splitzer.

Planting

In Large Pots

Choose a pot a least 400mm in diameter and 500mm deep. Good drainage holes are essential. Our recommendation is to use a top quality potting mix. The best one for your Citrus Splitzer® would be Debco Terracotta and Tub. Visit the Debco website from the link to see all the advantages of this product. Plant your Citrus Splitzer at the same level in the new pot as it is in the specialised pot. Water the Citrus Splitzer in well making sure all the mix is moist. Continue to keep the newly planted Citrus Splitzer moist especially for the first 6-8 weeks while the roots start to grow into the new mix.

In the Garden

Make a hole at least half as big again as the current pot. If you have very poor soil then incorporate some soil conditioners and some organic matter to improve your soil. In poorly drained positions mound up you Citrus Splitzer® as digging a hole may be like making a little dam. Water in well and regularly for the first 6-8 weeks while the roots begin to become establishe

Position

The best position is in full sun. However in the modern courtyards, gardens etc that your CitrusSplitzer® is designed for this is often difficult. If possible try to place your Citrus Splitzer where it will receive at least half the days sunlight hours. Remember the less sun the less fruit.

Citrus Care



Mulching Whether in pots or the garden, mulching will help retain moisture and inhibit weed growth. Be careful not to put the mulch up against the trunk of your Citrus Splitzer®. But mulching will help the overall well-being of your plant.

Nutrition

Once your Citrus Splitzer® has had time to establish into the garden or into a large pot, it will be time to fertilise in order to keep it performing well. There is always extra demand on plant nutrition for fruiting plants. For optimum results, regular fertiliser applications - with particular focus on the period while fruit is being produced and immediately after the main fruiting period – are essential.

Pots

Control release or coated fertilisers that have a 3 or 6 month release period are ideal. They have all the major nutrients required. Regular applications of one of the plant tonics or seaweed extracts is also valuable in keeping your Citrus Splitzer in good order. Regular applications 3-4 times a year depending on the manufacturers recommendation will give excellent results.

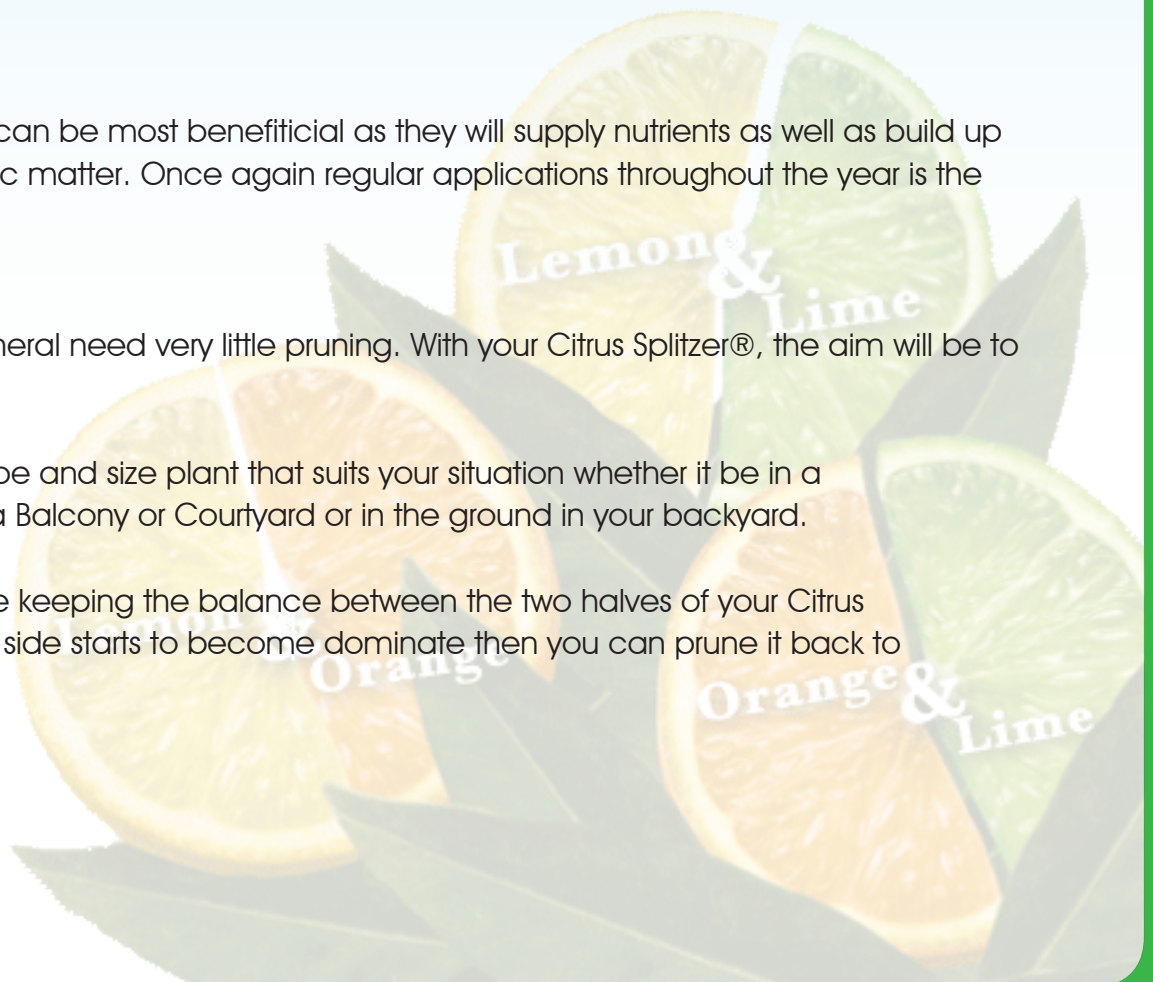
Garden

Organic Fertilisers can be most beneficial as they will supply nutrients as well as build up the soil with organic matter. Once again regular applications throughout the year is the best program.

Pruning

Citrus plants in general need very little pruning. With your Citrus Splitzer®, the aim will be to prune it to:

1. Keep the shape and size plant that suits your situation whether it be in a large pot on a Balcony or Courtyard or in the ground in your backyard.
2. Ensure you are keeping the balance between the two halves of your Citrus Splitzer. If one side starts to become dominate then you can prune it back to



More Splitzer Information



Meyer Lemon

A compact lemon highly suited to home gardens. The main crop matures in winter, but will have some lemons at other times. Meyer is a hardy variety that flowers and fruits heavily.

The fruit's appearance is a little more orange than other lemons - both internally and externally. The mature fruit is quite round and can be large in size, with smooth skin for an attractive presentation. Meyer lemons are extremely juicy and contain a few seeds per fruit.

Meyer has become a favoured choice in lemon for home gardeners across the country.

Meyer lemon is a great choice as part of a Citrus Splitzer as it matches the vigour with both the lime and orange selected.



Tahiti Lime

A medium vigour variety, with an attractive broad and spreading habit. The main crop is produced in winter but with regular picking the crop can be spread over more of the year. Tahiti lime is a very productive bearing variety.

Tahiti lime is seedless, juicy and thin skinned. They are in general picked while still green but if left on the tree will colour to a light lemon shade.

Tahiti lime will complement its partner on Citrus Splitzer with a good supply of small seedless fruit.



Washington Navel Orange

One of, if not the best eating fruit of all the oranges, it is easy to peel, seedless and flavoursome.

This fruit is always good to eat especially if grown in your own backyard. Deep orange colour both inside and out when mature. The flavour is rich and juicy and can be peeled and pulled into segments easily or cut into quarters. The fruit matures early in the winter and will hold on the tree for many months.

Washington Navel is a medium strength grower that has attractive dark green foliage. The strong perfume smell is fantastic when flowering in the spring.

Washington Navel will combine well with the lemon or lime to give wonderful eating along with the many uses of the more acid citrus varieties.