



# FRUIT TREE PLANTING GUIDE

# BARE ROOT VS. CONTAINER GROWN PLANTS

Bare root plants are grown in-ground at a nursery. When they become dormant in the winter they are pulled from the ground and sent to the consumer. They may look like dead sticks when you purchase them at the Fruit Tree Sale, but wait a few months and they will be sprouting leaves in no time!

Container grown plants are just what they sound like! These trees and bushes are grown in nursery pots and can be transferred to new pots or to in-ground.

Planting methods for the two types of plants vary slightly, but should be considered.

# PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

## MATERIALS:

- Garden hoe
- Pickaxe
- Round point shovel
- Hardwood mulch chips

1

## SELECT YOUR SITE

6+ hours of sun  
Well-draining soil  
Allow 15' between each tree

2

## MARK OUT YOUR PLANTING AREA & REMOVE GRASS

Circle 30" in diameter  
Area should be the size of a child's hula hoop

Using the garden hoe, remove the top layer of grass and place in a pile. Using the corner of the hoe can be helpful in loosening the soil.

3

## DIG YOUR HOLE!

Using the pickaxe and round point shovel, dig a hole approximately the depth of the length of the roots. You want the base of the tree to be at ground level once it has been planted.

Aim for a "cereal-bowl" shaped hole, avoiding any smooth edges.

## BONUS TIPS

- Vining fruits such as muscadines, blackberries, and kiwis benefit from trellising. We recommend the Two-Wire Method.
- Pollinating insects are essential, especially with cross-pollinating fruit trees. Avoid spraying insecticide or mosquito treatments near your trees to protect your bees!
- If you want to test your soil before planting, you can contact UGA Extension for a low-cost soil test.

Happy planting!

