



PEACHES

Providing beautiful blossoms and fruit with incomparable flavor, peaches are worth the maintenance it takes to grow them in this climate.

Peaches and nectarines are almost identical, the major difference is the fuzzy skin of the peach versus the waxy smooth skin of the nectarine. Also, nectarines have a bit firmer flesh, while peaches are a bit juicier.

There are genetic dwarf peaches available which only reach about 5 or 6 feet. Semi-dwarfing rootstocks such as St. Julian A will produce trees which will only reach 12-15'. Genetic dwarf and peaches are natural dwarf hybrids (they have been selected not engineered). These selections are then grafted onto a standard rootstock. Genetic dwarfs have been developed to produce normal sized fruit on tightly spaced fruit buds. Therefore they require fruit thinning. These trees require little pruning and are perfect for containers. If the tree is kept in a container it can be moved into the garage or other covered area which will help reduce infection of peach leaf curl.

The major problem that peaches and nectarines have in this climate is peach leaf curl. Peach leaf curl is a fungal disease which infects the bud scales in mid to late winter as the buds begin to swell. Although there are varieties of peaches available which are resistant to the disease, we do not carry any disease resistant nectarines. Cleanliness around infected trees and dormant sprays with copper help prevent the disease. If your tree does get the disease, feed it with a high nitrogen fertilizer when the first set of leaves drop (A second set of leaves will be produced). Peaches and nectarines bear fruit on the previous years growth, so it is important to get as much growth as possible in the Spring. In most cases, unless otherwise noted, peaches and nectarines are self-fruitful.

VARIETIES

CRIMSON ROCKET	Self fertile columnar tree reaching 15'x5'. Sweet, smooth yellow flesh. Medium size freestone fruit.
EMPRESS	Genetic dwarf to 5'. Large fruit with glowing pink to red skin. The juicy yellow flesh has a delicious, sweet, mouth watering flavor. Beautiful pink blooms. Clingstone. Very hardy.
FROST	One of the most peach leaf curl resistant varieties. Medium to large yellow fruit with yellow freestone flesh of good flavor. Good for canning and fresh eating. Ripen in mid-August.
GOLDEN GLORY	Genetic dwarf reaching 5'. Large golden skinned fruit with a red blush. Yellow, delicious freestone flesh. Late August to early September harvest.
OREGON CURL FREE	An excellent variety bred for the Northwest – very resistant to peach leaf curl. Large semi-freestone flesh is sweet and juicy. Ripens in August.
SATURN	Large, yellow freestone flesh with a bright and tangy flavor. Donut shaped fruit! Self-fruitful. White flesh is sweet and juicy.