



Easy Edible

Asian Persimmon:

General info: Asian persimmons (*Diospyros*) are ornamental trees native to Asia, and are one of the most widely grown fruit in the world. They are easy to grow and do very well in our area. Persimmons can be grown as single or multi-stemmed trees up to approx. 15-25' high & wide, depending on variety. The fruit ripens in fall, and are popular with hunters to attract wildlife.

Persimmons are classified into two categories: astringent and non-astringent. Non-astringent varieties are crisp when ripe. Astringent varieties must ripen until they are soft and sweet. (Otherwise they are very bitter.)

Landscape uses: Small specimen or shade tree.

Ornamental qualities: Drooping, bluish leaves; golden leaves in fall; showy, brightly colored fruit in fall.

Planting: Persimmons tolerate a wide range of soil conditions once established. Plant in full to partial sun.

Pruning: Minimal pruning is necessary. Remove crossing, dead or broken limbs. Pruning to control size may be done if required.

Fertilizing/Watering: Fertilize in spring and mid-summer. Extremes in moisture (drought or soggy conditions) can cause fruit to drop off.

Varieties:

Fuyu: Most popular Japanese persimmon. Non-astringent. Medium size somewhat square-shaped fruit. Reddish-orange skin when ripe. Sweet and crisp like an apple. Excellent for fresh eating or cooking. Bears at a young age. Heavy producer. Ripens in November.

Ichi: Non-astringent. Productive, good quality fruit. Early to ripen in September. Dwarf growing variety.

Saijo: Astringent. Small, egg-shaped. Sweet, yellow flesh. Ripens late September to October. Self-fertile. Said to be the best tasting (once ripe).

Chocolate: Non-astringent. Medium sized with chocolaty-colored flesh. Very sweet. Ripens late October to November.

Sheng: A flattish square-shaped astringent persimmon with excellent firm flesh and a very rich nutty sweet flavor. Superb cultivar, very cold hardy. Ripens early in Sept-Oct