

3/1/19

Nuts

Almond (Prunus dulcis)

Deciduous tree reaching up to 20-30' in mature height. Has an erect form when young but will become somewhat spreading and dome shaped with age. Fruit looks like a leathery, flattened, undersized green peach. The hull splits to reveal the pit, which is the fruit you harvest. Almonds do well in any soil. They have a deep root system, at least 6'. The trees will survive on less water than most fruit trees. Almonds need cross pollination by planting two different varieties, unless a self-fertile variety is chosen.

Chestnut (Castanea)

Deciduous tree reaching to 40-50' in height with a width of 20-40'. The large edible nuts are grown within the prickly burrs. The nuts are encapsulated inside the chestnut bur; these are the seeds that we eat. Chestnuts are wonderful dense shade trees but they need ample space to grow. The creamy white, small flowers in long 8-10" catkins, will bloom in June-July. Single trees bear lightly or not at all. Two trees of different varieties should be planted for a substantial nut crop. Intolerant of alkaline soils. Plant in a full sun exposure.

Filbert / Hazelnut (Corylus)

Deciduous tree. This plant will make a handsome, well-structured small tree for the garden or the terrace. They like full sun and average water. Trees tend to sucker, so prune the lower suckers off if a tree form is desired. If you prefer a shrub form keep the lower branches. Cross pollination is required for fruit production. A ten year old tree can yield up to 10 lbs. of nuts per year. Trees will bear at 2-3 years old. The varieties we carry are immune to eastern fire blight.

Walnut (Juglans)

Deciduous tree with a large spreading habit reaching to 40-50' in mature height. Do not plant walnut trees too close to parking areas or terraces due to their large spread. The trees have rather large leaves and can be messy. Sometimes the husks will stain decks and sidewalks after they have fallen off. The walnuts are mature as soon as the husk can be easily separated from the nut. The trees need deep soil moisture but remember to keep the base of the trunk free of too much moisture. Walnuts do not need cross pollination.

