



The Front Yard Nursery

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BUYING BAREROOT PLANTS

Benefits:

- **Success:** buying and planting a bareroot plant gives it the best possible chance of acclimating to the soil and the planting conditions.
- **Rootstock:** most of our fruit trees are grafted onto rootstocks specifically designed for El Dorado County. They tolerate clay soil better than others and are early bearing so you have a better chance of getting the best fruit earlier, and a healthy tree.
- **Cost:** it is cheaper to buy plants in bareroot form versus potted.

What to consider before purchasing:

- *Do you have deer?* If so, you have options. You can fence the individual plants, or a whole area. You can purchase plants that are tall already, so they will outgrow the deer's reach. You can also use repellants, such as Liquid Fence, to keep the critters at bay. The deer factor may determine if you'd like us to prune your bareroot plants or not. Read our handout on "Backyard Orchard Culture" for planting ideas.
- *How will your new plants be watered?* Obviously, irrigation is necessary for your plants to survive, especially during the summer months. Before you plant, consider how they will be watered. Drip? Hose? Fire hydrant? Be sure to read our irrigation handouts for tips.
- *Do you need a pollinizer to get the best fruit set?* Some fruit trees need another variety to produce fruit, or will produce better fruit if another variety is present. The tree tag or attached list will tell you, or ask us.
- *How wide will my trees get?* They will get as wide as you let them get tall. You have control over the size.
- *Does the planting hole drain well?* Good drainage is essential for your plants, especially fruit trees. To see if you have adequate drainage, fill the planting hole with water. It should drain within 12 hours. If not, move the location, or mound up soil to create drainage.

Items to Ensure Success with Your Bareroot Plants:

- Triple super phosphate (0-45-0). Our soil lacks this essential mineral. Generally, one pound per tree, or ½ pound per berry bush.
- Soil amendment, such as Soil Building Compost or Kellogg's Amend
- Gopher baskets
- Tree stakes and tie tape

HAPPY PLANTING!