Welcome to the Spring 2014 Fruit and Citrus Sale

The 2014 Fruit and Citrus Sale is hosted by the Harris County Master Gardener Association (HCMGA) at Precinct 2. Master Gardeners are certified by and volunteer for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, a member of the Texas A&M System.

The Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 are a satellite group of Master Gardeners who meet and volunteer in southeast Harris County. Our mission is to assist AgriLife Extension in bringing relevant, research-based information in horticulture to the public.

We practice and teach safe and responsible gardening practices, landscaping, fruit and vegetable culture at the Genoa Friendship demonstration and donation gardens located at the Precinct 2 Road Camp on Genoa Red Bluff Rd. The gardens include a 6000 square foot vegetable garden, a fruit orchard, a berry patch and an herb garden. The produce from this garden is donated to local food banks where it is used to provide healthy meals for people in need. We also have a perennial garden that utilizes Earth-Kind plants and practices.

Proceeds from this sale help us maintain the gardens and allow us to offer educational programs in our community. Master Gardeners are available to answer your gardening questions. If you have a question after the sale, please call our hotline at 281-855-5600 or visit our Web site at:

http://hcmga.tamu.edu

For planting instructions and more, visit the Fruit & Nut Resource website:

http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/fruit-nut/
2014 Spring Sale
Harris County Master Gardener Association
Precinct 2 Satellite

What are chill hours?

Certain plants require a minimum number of “chill hours” to break dormancy and induce normal bloom and vegetative growth. Most stone fruits (peaches, plums, cherries) and pome fruits (apples and pears) fall into this category. Chill hours are the cumulative total of winter temperatures between 32°F and 45°F.

Many area gardeners assume that we have very few chill hours with our mild winters and are often surprised to learn how many we actually average. Chill hours vary widely across the county.

Pasadena / South Bay Area = approx. 350 - 450 hours
Downtown Houston = approx. 450 hours
Cypress / Bear Creak = approx. 600 hours

The trees available at the sale have been carefully selected to be suited to the conditions in our area.

Pomes and Stone Fruit

Apples A1-A5

Multi-grafted Apples

2N1 Apple
3N1 Apple

More than one variety is grafted onto each rootstock. These specimens are perfect for smaller gardens where a variety of flavors and an extended harvest season is desired. They are also delightfully ornamental when in bloom and can easily be worked into an existing perennial border as well as the orchard. The varieties are labeled on each tree. Care should be taken to preserve each variety when pruning. Prune more vigorous limbs harder to maintain a balanced specimen.

Anna Apple
Malus pumila ‘Anna’
Large crops. Sweet, crisp. Stores 2 months. Self-fruitful, but better if pollinated by Dorsett Golden. Bears late June. 200 chill hours.

Carnavale ™ by Treesearch Farms
Malus ‘Carnavale tm’

Newest apple for the Gulf Coast! Carnavale™ is yellow, but with pronounced rosy-red blush overtones. Looks more red than yellow. The fruit is firm, the flesh is crisp and the flavor complex – sweet with a tart overtone. A heavy bearer of uniform rounded fruits. It is early to flower, just slightly later than Anna, with a similar ripening date. Originally from Brazil. Good resistance to fireblight – heat and humidity tolerant. Self-fruitful 250-300 chill hours.

Dorsett Golden Apple
Malus ‘Dorsett Golden’
Large, firm, sweet. Golden delicious type. Stores 2 months. Pollinizer for Anna and other low chill apples. Superior performance in heat and humidity – heavy, reliable producer. 100 chill hours.
Pears – Asian  A6
Asian pears comprise a large group of pears that are crisp in texture. Often Asian pears are called apple pears because they are crisp and juicy like apples but with a different and distinctive texture. Asian pears do not change texture after picking or storage as do European pears. When mature, Asian pears are good to eat as soon as harvested or for several months after picking if held in cold storage. Most Asian pears listed are semi self-fruitful and will fruit sufficiently for the average home gardener. Fruit yield will be greater if you plant multiple Asian pear trees. Pear trees need full sun and do not like standing water.

Hosui Pear
_Pyrus ‘Hosui’_
High-scoring in taste tests; perhaps the tastiest Asian pear. Large, juicy, sweet, flavorful, refreshing, crisp like an apple. Brownish-orange, russet-colored skin. Will pollinate with any other pear that blooms at the same time. **450 chill hours.**

Pears – European  A7
Tennosui Pear
_Pyrus_
Great flavor, great blight resistance, excellent storage. Cross between Tennessee and the Hosui Asian Pear. Bears in 5 - 6 years. Pollinate with Southern Bartlett, Southern Queen, Tennessee or Acres Homes. **400 chill hours.**

Multi-Grafted Peach-Nectarine  A8
5N1 Peach/Nectarine
More than one variety of each of these fruits is grafted onto each rootstock. These specimens are perfect for smaller gardens where a variety of flavors and an extended harvest season is desired. They are also delightfully ornamental when in bloom and can easily be worked into an existing perennial border as well as the orchard. The varieties are labeled on each tree. Care should be taken to preserve each variety when pruning. Prune more vigorous limbs harder to maintain a balanced specimen.

Nectarines  A9-A10
Panamint Nectarine
_Prunus nucipersica ‘Panamint’_

Snow Queen Nectarine
_Prunus nucipersica ‘Snow Queen’_
Great white fleshed freestone of legendary status. So fragile that it melts in your mouth. Some resistance to Plum Curcilio and black spot. Ripens in late May. **250 - 300 chill hrs.** Self-fruitful.

Multi-grafted Peaches  A-11
3N1 Peach
More than one variety of each of these fruits is grafted onto each rootstock. These specimens are perfect for smaller gardens where a variety of flavors and an extended harvest season is desired. They are also delightfully ornamental when in bloom and can easily be worked into an existing perennial border as well as the orchard. The varieties are labeled on each tree. Care should be taken to preserve each variety when pruning. Prune more vigorous limbs harder to maintain a balanced specimen.
Peaches  A12-A14
Bonanza Miniature Peach
Prunus
If you don’t have a lot of space, and want a truly outstanding peach that is very productive in our area, this is especially for you. Popular yellow freestone – large fruit is sweet, low in acid, with a mild, refreshing flavor. 5-6 feet tall and makes a good container plant. Ripens early June. Self-fruitful.  **250 chill hours or less.**

MidPride Peach
Prunus ‘Midpride’
Exceptional flavor and dessert quality. Best yellow freestone for warm winter climate of Houston. Mid-season ripening. Self-fruitful.  **250 chill hours.**

Tropic Snow Peach
Prunus persica ‘Tropic Snow’
Excellent tasting (rated 10) white-fleshed freestone. Pale yellow skin with red blush. Large fruit ripens in May before Plum Curculio gets to the fruit. Self-fruitful.  **150-200 chill hours.**

Plums  A15-A16
Beauty Plum
Prunus ‘Beaury’
Sweet, flavorful plum. More widely adapted than Santa Rosa, and more productive in coastal climates. Reddish-purple skin, fully ripe fruit has red flesh. Harvest late May. Self-fruitful. Excellent pollinizer for Mariposa.  **250 chill hours.**

Scarlet Beauty Plum
Prunus ‘Scarlet Beauty’
Large, round fruit with reddish/purple skin and red flesh. Juicy, sweet, soft flesh. Ripens in late May, early June. Self-fruitful.  **150-200 Chill hours.**

Other Fruits

Avocados  B1-B4
Persea americana
Houston gardeners who have been waiting for cold tolerant avocados can rejoice! Mexican Avocados are beautiful trees in the landscape. Their large, glossy leaves and naturally pyramidal shape are distinctly favorable attributes. Clusters of pale green, unremarkable flowers appear in February. Fruit ripens in fall. Avocados need protection from damaging winds, sunburn, and frost for the first few years. Once your tree begins to mature, it will tolerate any expected Houston winter. Require full sun, adequate moisture and good drainage.

Fantastic Avocado
Persea americana ‘Fantastic’
Green, paper-thin skin, most cold hardy of all the Mexican avocados. The fruit has a creamy texture and fantastic flavor. Eat skin and all. It is a beautiful, vigorous growing tree.

Opal Avocado®
Persea americana ‘Opal’
Originated in Uvalde, Texas. Evergreen to mid-to-low 20’s and can return from severe freeze damage if the bud union is protected. It has survived 14 degrees with some limb die-back. This beautiful tree produces rich creamy fruits with paper-thin green skins.
Pancho
*Persea Americana ‘Pancho’*
Introduced by Dr. Norman Maxwell from the Rio Grande Valley. 100% Mexican avocado – foliage has a licorice scent when crushed. Medium sized fruit with slick green skin. Delicious, rich tasting fruit with a smooth texture. One of the earliest maturing avocados, sometimes as early as Mid-August.

Wilma™ Avocado
*Persea americana ‘Wilma’*
A Mexican avocado found in Pearsall, Texas. A black fruit that matures late in the season. The fruit is pear shaped and is ripe when the seed is loose when you shake it. A large upright somewhat spreading tree. Fruits from September to October. Very cold-hardy avocado tree! The skin is shiny and paper-thin and you can bite right into the skin & creamy flesh.

**Figs C1-C4**
Figs are easy to grow, drought tolerant, and are relatively disease and pest free. They are wonderful in the garden and are a practical way of creating a large, full screen. You can also plant one as a large, dramatic accent plant. The sculptured trunks & limbs provide winter interest. The added bonus is the delicious fruit in the summer & fall! Most fig trees mature anywhere from 12’ x 12’ to 20’ x 20’ & can easily be pruned if absolutely necessary. All figs need sun and a well-drained soil.

Banana
*Ficus carica ‘Banana’*

Celeste Fig
*Ficus carica ‘Celeste’*
Best for our area. Purple-brown skin, pink flesh. Medium fruit, excellent flavor. Closed eye. This is the ‘sugar fig’ of heirloom gardens. Very cold hardy.

LSU Gold
*Ficus carica ‘LSU Gold’*
One of the very best hybrid figs! Large, bright yellow-gold fig with light red to pink pulp and a drop of “honey” at the small eye. Vigorous grower, producing figs at every leaf axil. The eye is slightly open, but resists splitting and souring - should be picked as soon as it reaches maturity. Good quality for eating fresh and preserving. Quality improves in dry seasons!

Purple Passion
*Ficus carica ‘Purple Passion’*
Very large, deep plum-colored fig with amber flesh. Delicious!! Extremely prolific, super sweet – great for eating fresh off the tree!

Jujubes – ‘Chinese Dates’ C5-D1
These trees are disease and pest free. They produce an abundance of small semi-sweet fruit, with one small seed. Taste and texture are similar to an apple, or a dried date. Trees are generally very upright and take up very little horizontal space. The trees are drought tolerant once established, and can withstand very cold freezing temperatures. No pruning is required for production but they can be topped to keep within harvesting reach. Harvest in the morning and just as the fruit starts to get its rust color.
Sugarcane Jujube
*Ziziphus jujuba*
Small to medium sized fruit which can be round to elongated. Extremely sweet fruit on a very spiny plant. The fruit is worth the spines!

Tigertooth Jujube
*Ziziphus jujuba*
Considered one of the best jujubes; vigorous tree; long fruit has crisp texture like an apple; mild flavor; quite sweet, a heavy producer every year.

Persimmons D2
Fuyu Persimmon
*Diospyros kaki* ‘Fuyu’

Pomegranates D3-D5
Luscious jewel of a fruit! Packed inside are hundreds of ruby-red arils (sweet, tart, gem-like juice sacs). Eat arils whole, seeds & all – add to salads and other dishes. High in vitamin C and an excellent source of antioxidants. Easy to grow and self-fruitful. Maintain at any height with summer pruning.

Garnet Sash Pomegranate
*Punica granatum* ‘Garnet Sash’
Vigorous tree sets big crops of large, dark red fruit with deep-red, partially edible sweet-tart seeds. Can be grown as a shrub or tree and kept any height by summer pruning.

Kashmir Blend Pomegranate
*Punica granatum* ‘Kashmir Blend’
Medium size pomegranate with light pink-red exterior. Ruby red seeds have intense flavor with no overbearing acid taste. Tree has a slightly spreading growth habit and can also be grown as a shrub.

Red Silk Pomegranate
*Punica granatum* ‘Red Silk’
A semi-dwarf pomegranate, which will grown 7’ - 10’, just right for a patio pot! This UC Davis introduction is a heavy bearer of large fruit with red juice and a delicious grenadine flavor. It has a pleasing balance of acid and sweetness. Exterior is red. Great acid-sugar balance, berry flavor, seeds are firm but edible, exterior is red. 150 – 200 chill hours.

Grapes

Grapes - Muscadine E1-E4
(need 1 male for every 2 females)
Black Beauty
*Vitis* ‘Black Beauty’
Black female. Large fruit, 1 ¼ inch in diameter. Quality very good. Sugar content 24.5%. Ripens mid to late-season. Vine very vigorous. Clusters large. One of the best black muscadines ever developed.
Darlene Muscadine Grape
*Vitis* 'Darlene’
Bronze female. The best of the bronze scuppernongs. Consistently large size throughout the vine, not erratic. 24% sugar, dry scar, melting pulp, excellent quality.

Ison Muscadine Grape
*Vitis* 'Ison’
Black male, self-fertile. 19% sugar. Very productive, ripens uniformly in large clusters, early to mid-season. Best black pollinizer. 1-1/8” fruit.

Supreme Muscadine Grape
*Vitis* ‘Supreme’
Black female. Best of the black scuppernongs. It is the largest muscadine developed at this time. Very heavy producer. 23% sugar. Ripens August-September, very vigorous, edible skin, large clusters, disease resistant.

**Berries**

**Blackberries  E5-E7**

**Kiowa**
*Rubus* ‘Kiowa’
Sweet, LARGE berries! Largest berries of the Arkansas varieties. Kiowa blooms earlier and longer than other blackberries. Produces large quantities of berries for about six weeks. Fast-growing variety with erect thorned canes grows 5'-6' tall with a 4'-8' spread. Superior to other blackberries for our area. If you can only grow one variety, this is by far the best. Great eaten fresh and makes fabulous blackberry cobbler!

**Ouachita Blackberry PP#17162**
*Rubus* ‘Ouachita’
Bears consistently high yields of large sweet berries over a five week period on thornless canes. The berries are about the size of a quarter and contain approx. 10% - 12% sugar. The erect habit of the blackberry makes it easy to maintain in the landscape. Good disease resistance.

**Prime-Ark® 45 Blackberry PP# 22449**
*Rubus PrimeArkansas 45’*
A new variety that will bloom on primo-canes (first year growth) as well as flori-canes (second year growth). These varieties have the potential to produce two crops per year, but this is still being evaluated in our area. We are observing early ripening in our trial planting. Averages 10% - 12% sugar. Medium to large berry size. Excellent disease resistance.

**Blueberries  F1-F5**

Low chill blueberries grow and produce well in the Houston area. Blueberries have attractive blue-green foliage through spring and summer. In fall they turn beautiful colors of burgundy, gold and red. Blueberry blossoms are borne in clusters of tiny white bells. The delicious and healthy fruit follows. Varieties ripen at different times so planting more than one variety will extend the harvest as well as increase pollination and production. Blueberries require acidic soil (Ph of 5), even moisture, full sun. They can be grown as an informal hedge, a specimen shrub, or in large (15” – 18”) containers.
Blueberries – Southern Highbush

**Abundance Blueberry (PP#16476)**
*Vaccinium sp. ‘Abundance’*
A new and distinct southern highbush blueberry variety. Vigorous, upright bush. Produces large, medium-blue berries with a very small picking scar and high firmness. High yields that ripen early – mid May. 300 – 400 chill hours.

**Emerald Blueberry (PP#12165)**
*Vaccinium ‘Emerald’*
Produces abundant crops of the largest Southern Highbush berries with a mild, sweet flavor. Its rounded, spreading bush habit makes it a great landscape plant. Dependable in southern climates with a low chill requirement of 250 hours. Evergreen in warm climates.

**Palmetto (PP#16756)**
*Vaccinium ‘Palmetto’*
Early ripening (May) variety that is noted for its fine flavor. Medium sized berries are firm and medium blue. 350 – 450 chill hours.

**Springhigh (pp#16404)**
*Vaccinium ‘Springhigh’*
A low chill, early season blueberry with large, flavorful berries. Vigorous upright bush. Considered nearly self-fruitful, but will produce heavier when planted with other southern highbush. 200 chill hours

**Windsor (PP# 11807)**
*Vaccinium sp. ‘Windsor’*
Vigorous, with stout stems and a semi-spreading growth habit. Leafs out strongly as it begins to flower, enabling it to support a large crop. Early ripening – April. Good firmness, excellent flavor. Recommended for home production. 300 – 400 chill hours

Strawberries F6

**Sweet Charlie**
As the name implies, Sweet Charlie strawberries are super sweet! The plants are vigorous and produce an abundance of large fruit. One of the most widely grown strawberries due to its high yields and natural resistance to disease. Early-season bearer. Sun, well-drained soil.

Citrus

**Grapefruits G1-G2**

**Bloomsweet Grapefruit**
*Citrus paradisi’ ‘Bloomsweet’*
Believed to be a pummelo-sour orange cross. Good flavor, sweet-fleshed fruit peels easily. Evergreen, 20’ – 30’ with a 15’ spread. Ripens November – August.

**Cocktail Grapefruit**
*Citrus paradisi’ ‘Cocktail’*
This popular variety is actually a cross between a mandarin orange and a pummelo. They have a bright tangerine flavor with a clean, refreshing grapefruit finish. These fruits also lack the acidic bite of regular grapefruit. It is a good juicer – the juice has a distinct grapefruit flavor, without the acid bite.
Lemons  G3
Improved Meyer Lemon
*Citrus x meyeri*
The Meyer lemon tree is considered the world’s gourmet lemon. The fruit is sourest in August, and sweetest in January. Although it bears heavily November through April, the tree is everbearing – flowers and fruit are present on the tree at the same time. Meyer grows to about 10’ tall and 8’ - 10’ wide and produces heavy crops year after year. Allowed to ripen on the tree, the rind turns golden. Meyer tolerates temperatures down to 29º F. If Meyer freezes to the ground in a hard freeze (every 20 years) it will grow and produces again in 18 months. The tree is believed a hybrid between Citrus limon, the lemon, and Citrus reticulata, the mandarin orange.

Kumquats  H1
Meiwa Seedless Kumquat
The most popular kumquat for eating out of hand. Great for fresh eating – skin and all. Meiwa is large, round, and very sweet. It’s acidic and relatively juicy. Meiwa grows to about 8’ tall and 6’ wide and is very ornamental. The fruit is ripe when bright orange in late November and is best in February. Survives to 17ºF or below.

Limes  H2-H3
Mexican Lime / Key Lime (Thornless)
The Key Lime (Citrus aurantifolia Swingle)), also referred to as a Mexican Lime, bears a profuse amount of small, thin-skinned, greenish-yellow limes. This juicy lime is known for its distinctive aroma. High acid content. Flowers and fruits almost continuously. High light requirements, good air circulation, good drainage required. Compact bush with small blunt-pointed leaves. Winter protection is required.

Mexican Lime / Key Lime
‘Citrus aurantifolia Swingle’
The Key Lime, also referred to as a Mexican Lime, bears a profuse amount of small, thin-skinned, greenish-yellow limes. This juicy lime is known for its distinctive aroma. High acid content. Flowers and fruits almost continuously. High light requirements, good air circulation, good drainage required. Thorny, compact bush with small blunt-pointed leaves. Winter protection is required.

Oranges  H-4, I1-I3
Ujukitsu Orange
Sweet, very tasty mild orange flavor. A unique tasting fruit that you will never forget, and you will keep coming back for more. It is sometimes called a sweet lemon, and it looks a bit like one, but the taste is perhaps of the best tasting orange.

Cara Cara Pink Navel Orange
This navel orange has a flesh color closer to that of a blood orange. The flavor has a hint of grapefruit with the typical excellent sweetness of a navel orange. Will withstand mild freezes, but protect from a hard (26º) freeze.

Washington Navel Orange
These exceptionally delicious, seedless, easy-peeling fruits have been popular since they were first imported in 1870. Large round fruits have a slightly pebbled rind. Fruit will hold on the tree for several months beyond maturity and stores well after harvest. Tree has a rounded, slightly weeping canopy.
**Moro Blood Orange**
Juicy, medium sized fruit with a very distinctive aroma. Nearly seedless and has red to pink pulp, depending on the number of cool nights! It bears this fruit in clusters near the end of its branches. Tends to bear heavily in alternate years. Moderately cold hardy!

**Mandarins I4**
**Clementine Mandarin/Tangerine**
The Clementine is an early season mandarin producing sweet, juicy, fine flavored fruit that will hold on the tree for months. Easily peeled, highly ornamental fruits are held to the outside of the tree. Seedless. Moderate grower to 10’ to 20’ tall or can be clipped shorter. Almost thornless. Fairly good freeze tolerance.

**Satsumas J1-J4**
**Satsuma Mandarins**
Satsumas are a special group of mandarins. They are the most cold-hardy of the mandarin family. They are generally cold hardy to the low 20’s. A full grown Satsuma makes a large rounded ‘tree’ about 15’ x 18’, but they can easily be kept much smaller with pruning or if they are on the dwarfing ‘Flying Dragon’ Trifoliate rootstock. In the Houston and surrounding areas they are wonderful evergreen trees or large shrubs. Some home owners plant a variety of Satsumas along their fence and prune them into tall evergreen screens that produce wonderful crops of citrus from late September into December. There are early varieties, mid-season and late season so one can have delicious, juicy mandarins for up to 4 months in the fall! It is very important that any mandarin is picked just as yellow or orange coloring begins to appear on the skin. Do not wait until they are fully orange or you will have lost the best flavor and juiciness. Satsumas peel easily and are normally seedless. They grow in full sun or light shade and need a moist but well-drained bed.

**Brown Select Satsuma**
Medium sized, bright orange fruit, often with a slightly bumpy rind. Fruit has an extremely sweet, sprightly flavor and is seedless. Very easy to peel and breaks off into segments. Ripens one to two weeks before the Owari (early to mid October).

**Miho Satsuma**
A seedless very sweet fruit with an upright but low spreading growth habit with outstanding cold tolerance. Matures mid-to-late fall (late season fruit). Can reach 10-12’ tall.

**Owari Satsuma**
The original Satsuma and still hard to beat. It has a sweet flavor, low acidity, and very delicate fruit. Hardy to 22 degrees F or lower. Seeds rarely present. Tree is moderately vigorous, but slow-growing; medium-small, spreading and drooping; very productive. Start tasting in October, and ripe into December.

**Seto Satsuma**
An almost seedless, very sweet, notably smoother and thinner peel than other Satsuma varieties and usually ripens mid to late fall (late season fruit). Satsuma 'Seto' leaves are oblong and the tree canopy tends to droop.
Tropicals

Canistel (Egg Fruit) Bruce  K1
*Pouteria campechiana*
A vigorous, attractive tree native to Central America and well known to the Mayans. It is called ‘egg fruit’ because the flesh has the color and consistency of a hard-boiled egg yolk. It is similar to cooked pumpkin and can be used in pies, milkshakes, pudding, and bread, as well as eaten fresh. It retains its bright yellow color even when frozen — add a bit of sugar, as with berries, before freezing. Harvest the fruits when fully yellow. Easy to grow and requires minimal care. Will withstand short exposures to 30°F.

Dragon Fruits  K2-K3
*Hylocereus undatus*
Dragon Fruits are dramatic looking, fruit bearing members of the cactus family. The plant grows like a tropical climber. The snaking limbs can be trained to a trellis, arbor, pole, fence, or even up a tree. The dazzling, giant white flowers are fragrant night bloomers. They produce one of the most nutritious and refreshing exotic fruits with a mouth watering, light sweet taste. The fruit is normally a bright pink to dark red color and is highly ornamental with dramatic “scales”, like its namesake. Multiple fruiting cycles occur within a season. The Dragon Fruit needs protection from a hard freeze, especially when it is young, and from prolonged frosts or freezes when mature. It will grow in full sun or light shade and needs to be well-drained. It also can be grown in large containers.

Dark Star Dragon Fruit
*Hylocereus undatus ‘Dark Star’*
A medium to large sized fruit that typically weighs .75 – 1.25 pounds. Has long skinny bracts or fins that make it especially attractive. The fruit has a mild grape-like flavor that is most enjoyed when chilled and eaten fresh. Fruit is reddish outside and pink inside. Self pollinating.

Zamorano Dragon Fruit
*Hylocereus undatus ‘Zamorano’*
A medium to large sized fruit typically weighing .5 to 1.0 pounds. The flesh is incredibly dark red and has a sweet mild flavor. Can be eaten as fresh fruit, juices or used as a garnish. Larger fruit size is achieved with hand pollination, but will set fruit on its own.

Grumichama  K4
*Eugenia braziliensis*
A native of Brazil that seems made for the Upper Gulf Coast. It prefers to be located from sea-level to no more than 300 feet, will grow in rich clay soil, and is hardy to 26°F. It is highly ornamental in the landscape. It has a short, stocky trunk and is heavily foliaged. The fruit is quite cherry-like and can be eaten fresh or used in pies, jams, and jellies.

Miracle Fruit  K5
*Synsepalum dulcificum*
Although not sweet itself, when a single fruit is eaten and the fleshy pulp allowed to coat the taste buds of the tongue and inside of the mouth, an extraordinary effect occurs. Tart foods eaten afterwards taste sweet! You can eat a slice of lemon or lime without wincing. The marvelous aroma and inherent sweetness of the citrus will remain, but the sourness is almost completely covered by the effect of the Miracle Fruit. This effect lasts 30-45 minutes. High in vitamin C. Prefers semi-acidic soil, similar to blueberries. Moderate bushy growth to about 8’. Does well in containers and will tolerate light shade. Will fruit second or third year after planting. Flowers and fruits throughout warm weather. Tropical evergreen when protected.
Passion Fruit, Novak’s  L1
Passiflora
This large vine makes delicious, edible passion fruit. The fruit are green then turn purple when they ripen. The pulp inside is yellowish-orange, sweet, aromatic and delicious. The exotic looking flowers are white with a purple tinged center. Normally root-hardy in Houston winters. Passion fruit puree is a fun addition to many dishes, such as smoothies or cocktails.

Sapodilla  L2
Manilkara zapota
Sapodilla trees can grow quite tall in nature, but seldom grow large in cultivation. Grafted varieties often do not exceed 12’ tall. Sapodilla trees may flower year round, but they produce fruit twice a year. The fruit has an exceptionally sweet, malt-like flavor. Many compare the flavor to caramel or to a pear that has been candied in brown sugar. Immature fruit are rough, like sandpaper. When the fruit is ready to pick, it becomes smoother and may even look shiny in places. The fruit does not ripen until picked. The fruits typically take four to five days to ripen after picking, and they are ready to eat when soft to the touch. Can withstand temperatures in the high 20’s once mature.

Starfruits or Carambola  L3
Averrhoa carambola
Starfruits have a sweet citrus-like flavor that is both delicious and refreshing. They are eaten fresh and can be made into juice. The fruit is very attractive when sliced crosswise for a perfect star shape, and it is often used in fruit salads and as a garnish. The five-cornered or winged fruit is yellow when ripe and has translucent flesh. The skin is very crisp and thin and is also eaten. The center of the fruit contains a few small seeds. An attractive ornamental tree with small delicate leaves that can be in a 15 gallon pot or planted in a well protected place. The tree can grow to 25’, but can easily be pruned to 6’. Tiny pinkish flowers bloom in Spring, early Summer or Fall. Protect for the first two years, then cold hardy to the high 20’s for short periods. Plant where protected from wind.

Seedling Starfruit
Averrhoa carambola
These are star fruit trees produced from seeds of named varieties. They are heavy producers of sweet good flavored fruit. Forms a perfect star shape when sliced crosswise. While the fruit of named varieties will likely produce the first year, it will take one or two additional years for the fruit to produce from seedlings.

Sugar Apple  L4
Annona Squamosa
An attractive tree in the home landscape. It has an open growth habit with slender branches and seldom grows over 15’ to 20’ tall and wide. Sugar Apples enjoy hot temperatures and high humidity, giving them great potential in the Houston area landscape, but are best located in a warm, protected area. Sugar Apple fruits have a custard-like texture and a sweet pleasant taste. They are a dessert fruit that is normally eaten fresh, but their pulp can be used in ice cream, smoothies and shakes. Protect young trees from frost. Mature trees can withstand short-term exposure to 29°F,