

Jujube

Planting Information



- 12-15' tall
- Native to China
- Has thorns similar in size to rose thorns
- Varieties Shanxi Li, Lang, Li, GA866
- Young trees need the central leader supported to maintain structure.
- Leaf out very late in the year
- Prefers well drained soil

Common Pests and Diseases

No major pests or diseases in the St. Louis area. All fruit trees have the risk of aphid damage.

Aphids: Widespread damage, small green insects

Treatment: Companion planting, insecticidal soap, hand pick and remove/crush

Seed St. Louis Recorded Classes and Resources

Holistic Sprays - Recipes and ingredients available to Giving Grove projects

Orchard Class Recordings - Summer Pruning, Dormant Fruit Tree Pruning, Pest and Disease Management, and Harvest. Available on our YouTube channel.

Companion plant recommendations - Handout available on website

How to Eat

Jujubes have a pit but can be eaten fresh or dried. Fresh jujubes are also called 'Chinese Apples' and can be eaten or used similar to apples. Dried jujubes are similar to dates and have a similar sweetness. Some popular recipes also include candied jujubes and jujube tea!

Timeline of Care

Spring Care

- Application of four holistic sprays (liquid fish, pure neem oil, effective microbes) every few weeks once leaves start emerging and ending once fruits have formed (*Late February to Mid-May*)
- Remove any tree wraps placed in winter (*Early April*)
- For the first three Springs, remove all fruitlets to prevent fruit production (*Late April to Early May*)

Fall Care

- Harvest when fruits are ready! (*September through October*)
- Remove or shred all fallen leaves to prevent diseases from spreading (*Mid-October to November*)
- Fifth holistic spray once all leaves have been disposed of (*November*)
- Install tree wraps to protect trees from rabbits and voles (*Late November*)
- Apply a new layer of mulch to the base of the tree (*November*)

Ongoing Care

- During the first full growing season, water 5 gallons per plant per week, with the exception of weeks with substantial rain. After the first year, trees only need to be watered during droughts
- Weed the mulch ring
- Plant any desired companion plants to benefit the orchard ecosystem (*Spring or Fall*)