THE
VERDA
PROJECT

CITRUS

Care & Maintenance Handbook

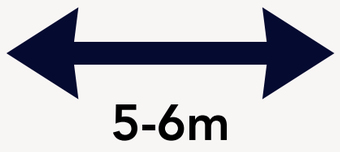
Citrus fruits include a variety of species, from grapefruits and mandarins to limes and lemons.Citrus provides many essential vitamins and nutrients such as vitamin C, Vitamin B, potassium, phosphorus, calcium, and many more, all beneficial for supporting health health, digestion, and fighting inflammation.

Fruiting Season-
Oranges usually fruits from December to March, while mandarins fruits from October to January

Sunlight Requirements-
~6-8 hours of direct sunlight a day for sweet, yielding fruits

Watering Frequency-
Keep soil consistently moist but not soggy, allowing fruits to be juicy

Planting Advice-
Citrus trees generally grow quite large, depending on species, and generally 5-6 meters apart is recommended



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Fertilizing Advice-
Citrus plants are considered “heavy feeders”; it is suggested to use fertilizers high in nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and micronutrients, which can be found in fruit tree fertilizer mixes across Zambia. Apply the fertilizer around the tree and lightly water it down, a few times a year, especially before the fruiting season is sufficient. Organic fertilizers such as composts and manure are also highly recommended

Pesticide Advice-
Citrus plants are generally not bothered by pests; if there are unwanted guests, a common pesticide is sufficient.

Pruning Basics-
Prune once a year before the growing season (rainy season). Cut off diseases or broken branches and overcrowded branches, strongly avoid overcutting and fruit-bearing wood. Check the pruning care guide for more.

Uses/Tips-
Water regularly for young trees, less often, deep watering is better than frequent shallow watering for mature trees. Citrus fruits are also very versatile in the kitchen, from enhancing flavor in drinks to making marmalades.

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