



Fact Sheet

Common name	Lemons & Limes		
Botanical name	<i>Citrus limon & Citrus aurantifolia</i>		
Summary			
<p>A small to medium, spreading vigorous evergreen tree, with glossy green leaves, in the same genus as kumquat, orange, grapefruit, tangelo and mandarin. A relatively young genus originating from Northern India, with the modern cultivar that we call lemon turning up in Spain around the 13th century courtesy of Arab traders. Since then the acidic fruit has become an indispensable ingredient in modern cuisine. Cultivars in Australia include the Lisbon, Eureka and Meyer varieties.</p>			
Likes		Doesn't like	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild winters, pleasant summers Full sun but will still bear in partial sun Well composted mulch 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy frost Exposing shaded bark to hot sun 	
Flowers in	Generally all year	Fruits in	All year
Care			
Planting	Plant grafted trees in spring in well-drained soil with partial or full sun		
Pollination/ self-fertile, requires another tree	All varieties are self-pollinating		
Pruning	Any time of year to reduce long water shoots and maintain shape and airflow. Lemons will respond well to severe pruning. Paint trunk and major branches with white water based paint if renovating in summer to avoid bark scold.		
Disease and pest management	Citrus gall wasp requires heavy pruning of all galls in June and July to avoid reinfestation. For scale, increase water and fertilise.		
Moisture, how much and when	Thirsty from Spring to Autumn		
Feeding	Hungry. Feed with high Nitrogen, NPK fertiliser once or twice a year any season.		
Harvesting	All year when fruit is almost in full colour. Fruit will hang on tree quite a few months once ripe.		

What to do when		 Prune	 Harvest	 Feed	 Pest / Disease
 Summer	Dec	•	•	•	
	Jan	•	•	•	
	Feb	•	•	•	
 Autumn	March	•	•	•	
	April	•	•	•	
	May	•	•	•	
 Winter	Jun	•	•	•	•
	Jul	•	•	•	•
	Aug	•	•	•	
 Spring	Sep	•	•	•	
	Oct	•	•	•	
	Nov				

This is a rough guide only. Individual fruit tree care depends on the variety, the conditions in your garden and your personal preferences!



Image credit: [moonjazz](#)

