

Flavoursome Feijoas – Plant now

Here in the BOP Feijoas are one of the easiest fruits to grow, rewarding you with masses of delicious fruit from late March through until June - just when there is not a lot of other fruit around. We are lucky, as in the South Island they are as scarce as hens' teeth. In fact, I did not even know what they were before I moved north all those years ago (In the old days my kids would say!). They are one of the hardiest of trees, surviving in hot and windy spots, even near the coast. They will also withstand light frosts and are often used as hedges, thus doubling their use as shelter and fruit together ... you can't go wrong.

To get the best crops, I would advise planting several named varieties of Feijoas together. This way they will pollinate one another, and you will increase your fruiting period and yield. In addition, Feijoas can be grown successfully in pots. Make sure that the pot has a volume of 30 litres or more, use a good quality mix like Daltons Premium Tub or Potting Mix and fertilise through the season with a fertiliser such as Ican Fruit Food. Ensure that you do not let the pot dry out in the Summer months.

Feijoas do not need much pruning. Every second year the tree can be thinned or kept to the height that you desire. Do this after the fruit is harvested in early Winter. If you have a hedge, do not be afraid to cut it back hard. They will come away again.

At Decor Gardenworld we have many varieties including.

- **Unique** is an early fruiting self -fertile type with large crops of medium sized, smooth skinned, soft, and juicy fruit. You cannot go wrong with this.
- **Apollo** has very large fruit with good flavour and storage life. It is semi self-fertile and a popular midseason fruiter.
- **Golden Goose**. Fruits in May with very large fruit with white flesh and thin skins which turn yellow when ripe. Stores well
- **White Goose**. April fruiting with sweet and juicy large fruit and smooth skinned.
- **Dens Choice**. This is a new selected variety which is excellent eating as the fruit is especially sweet and large.
- **Bambino** is ideal for that pot on your deck! She only grows to about 1.5m and has an abundance of fruit. Rather a cute little addition to the fruitery.

Who would have known there were so many varieties!

Also...Did you know that it is birds that pollinate Feijoas? So don't panic when you see them hopping around in the flowers in Spring and Summer. If you are finding that your feijoas are not producing much fruit, then attract the birds, perhaps with some bird feeders hung in the trees through Summer and Autumn. Generally, the fruit is ripe when it falls off. It's great for desserts (Feijoa crumble is a favourite), jam, chutney and best of all, eating fresh. YUM.



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