# These fruits are easy to grow in the semitropical zone 8/9 parts of the Deep South like Tallahassee

- \*Apple- resistant types on M-111, or a good Geneva root like Geneva-41
- \*Avocado-Brazos Belle, Joey, Fantastic, Lila but will require systemic fungicide to combat Laurel Wilt
- \*Banana- Ice Cream, Orinoco, Namwah, Mysore, 1000 finger, Saba, Raja Puri, Brazilian... Prune frozen tips only after each freeze
- \*Blackberry-Prime ark, Arapaho, Ouachita, Osage, Natchez... Most do well
- \*Blueberry-Vernon, Ochlockonee, Powderblue, Star, O'neal, Emerald, Jewel. Plant on a slightly raised bed mulched with pinebark
- \*Cactus Pear (Opuntia sp.)
- \*Che-seedless grafted on Osage Orange
- \*Citrus-Satsuma, Shiranui, US Early Pride, Sugarbelle, Duncan Grapefruit, Navels, Hamlin, Midsweet, Valencia...they all need to be grafted on trifoliate orange. That is a temperate citrus relative, not a trifoliate hybrid like Carrizo, Kuharske, or Swingle.
- \*Elderberry-most types do well
- \*Fig-Celeste, Brown Turkey, Ischia, LSU Gold, LSU purple, Black Mission...any common fig and mulch well
- \*Goji berry
- \*Grapes- Muscadine like Scuppernong, Alachua, Carlos,...Hybrid Bunch Grapes on Carlos Muscadine rootstock like Black Spanish and Blanc du Bois
- \*Guava- Pineapple Guava, Cattley Guava, Cherry of the Rio Grande, many other myrtle family fruits with or without protection from frost

- \*Jujube-Li, Lang, Sherwood, Tigertooth, Chico/GA,
- \*Kiwi- I like hardy fuzzless kiwi the best, also called grape kiwi
- \*Loquat-Seedlings or Gold Nugget
- \*Mulberry- most will do well, but some suffer late freezes like figs.
- \*Olive like Arbequina
- \*Palms-many species have edible fruits, nuts, or palm hearts. A few stand out. Pindo palm fruit and nuts. Some varieties and species of Date Palm.
- \*Persimmon-Fuyu, Suruga, Saijo, they all grow well here on native virginiana roots
- \*Pawpaw-get grafted varieties with good fruit quality or plant several seedlings from good fruiting trees
- \*Pear-the disease resistant varieties on Callery or OHxF 333 or OHxF 87 rootstock. Moonglow, Tenn, Ayers, Shinko, Ya Li, avoid Bartlett, Anjou, Bosc
- \*Pineapple as a house plant or covering during freezes
- \*Pomegranate-Christina or a hardy Russian type. Any will grow well with proper care.
- \*Passionfruit
- \*Raspberry-Caroline is the best one, Mysore and Dorman Red are ok.
- \*Strawberry- plant in troughs on posts, hanging baskets, or use chemicals
- \*Tea camellia

### NUTS

- \*Pecan-like Amling and Elliot, McMillan, Prilop, Gafford, Kanza, Lakota, Headquaters, Adams 5, Miss L, Some Hickories are good nuts too.
- \*Black Walnut- Thomas Meyers

- \*Hazelnut-OSU selections may due well but native species are most disease resistant
- \*Chinese Chestnut selections
- \*Chinquapin

#### **TROPICALS**

Mango, Guava, Winter and Spring bearing Avocado and Citrus, Sapotes, Litchi, etc... can all be grown easier than peaches outside organically. The key is to prune and train them to be bushes that are easy to cover in the winter.

## THE NOT SO EASY

\*True cherries, apricots, almonds, most plums, Labrusca grapes like Concord and Niagra, European grapes like Chardonay, Thompson Seedless.....will not grow here due to bacterial diseases native to the southeast. They can be grown in a screen house like a pool enclosure which keeps the bugs out that spread the infection.

\*Peaches and Plums must be grafted on Guardian, or Flordaguard rootstock. Most nurseries have Halford rootstock, the cheapest, which is not suited to the southeast. MP-29 is a new patented rootstock and is preferred. Most peaches will do okay here on the right root. Get a mixture of high, medium, and low chill types. Plums should be either the University of Florida series like Gulf Rose, Gulf Beauty, Gulf Blaze, or the Auburn AU series, or Byron Gold, or Spring Satin Plumcot **only!** 

Peaches and Plums require more spraying than most fruits here, and are easier, more reliable, and cheaper in the long run when grown in a protective structure. See the factsheets and links section of www.quincynursery.com for the peach care link.

Organic/Bio-rational products I recommend

- -Surround clay sprayed to prevent fruit worms
- -Copper, Sulfur, and Agrifos fungicides

-Insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, Bt, and Spinosad for insect control.

The Surround will have to be sprayed as frequently as it is washed away by the rain. The others as needed by infestations.

#### Common Fruit Tree Care Recommendations for the Southeast

Citrus should be sprayed with an insecticide each month like Spinosad, Bt (Bacillus thurengensis), insecticidal soap, horticultural oil (dormant or summer). You can use a systemic or chemical insecticide, but these organics are safe and will work. Soap and oil will burn when it too hot so spray in the evening and wash it off in the morning or use another.

It is a good idea to spray every month with a fungicide, but at a different time than the insecticide. I usually do the insecticides on the 1st and the fungicides on the 15th. I recommend a phosphite like "Agrifos", copper like liquid copper or copper hydroxide, or a mixture of a beneficial bacteria like "Actinovate" combine with a low concentration of copper

Pears, Apples, and related pome fruits often grow well with no care but do better with care. They have some fungal leaf spot issues and bacterial issues like fireblight. Beneficial bacteria and copper, copper, streptomycin, and phosphite will help keep it under control. I would alternate each. You must also monitor the trees for fireblight and prune out infected branches several inches below the lesions.

The same insecticides recommended for citrus will work and surround will prevent the rare fruit worms.

Most other fruits will need less spraying if disease resistant types are planted. The safer chemicals mentioned above will work for most problems.