

CITRUS TREE PROJECT BOOK

Central Florida Fair

#2



Name: _____ Age: _____

County: _____ Club: _____

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This project book is designed for use with the Central Florida Fair Citrus Tree growing project. You should begin keeping records as soon as you obtain your tree. It is not necessary to write records in this book right away; you may keep them in a separate journal or calendar and transfer in at a later date.

Included in this book are questions for you to complete along with your project records. The questions are intended to help you learn more about growing and caring for citrus trees. Answers to the questions can be found in the U.F. Extension publication entitled “Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide” or other quality citrus care manuals. The Extension publication can be ordered through IFAS publications. Additional information is provided through a handout entitled “Care of Containerized Trees” and project workshops held in May, September and January of the project year.

<http://www.centralfloridafair.com/>

The completed project book should include:

- 1) Citrus project activities.
- 2) Tree care records.
- 3) Project pictures.
- 4) Project story.

Your project book must be completed by the Central Florida Fair citrus tree project pre-judging held prior to the contest and sale on 4-H Day. You will be expected to submit your completed project book for judging when you enter your tree for pre-judging. If you have any questions regarding your project tree or this book, you should ask your 4-H Agent or plan to ask at one of the scheduled workshops.

For update info, project books, dates, maps visit:

<http://lake.ifas.ufl.edu/4-H/index.htm>

Citrus Tree Nutrition

Good Citrus tree nutrition is essential, but over fertilization can result in problems as well. Answer the following questions about citrus tree nutrition using “Your Florida Dooryard Citrus Guide” published by the University of FL, or another equivalent resource.

1) What are some of the possible effects of over fertilization of young citrus trees? _____

2) How can you prevent the problem of excess salt accumulation? How can you eliminate the salt build up if it has already occurred? _____

3) What is the goal of fertilization of young citrus trees from planting through the second full year? From years three through five? _____

4) Briefly describe an appropriate fertilization program for young, first year, citrus tree.

5) What three elements are represented by the numbers on a fertilizer tag? _____

6) What is the best fertilizer mix range for a young, non fruit bearing citrus tree? _____

7) What are some alternatives to commercial, store bought fertilizer? _____

8) How can you do your part in helping to maintain ground water quality through your fertilization practices? _____

9) How many times per year should you fertilize your tree during each of the following years of growth and development?

First Year: _____ Second Year: _____ Third Year: _____

Fourth Year: _____ Fifth Year: _____

10) What is the pH range of most Florida soil? _____

What is the range in which nutrients are most available to the citrus tree? _____

How is pH adjusted in the soil?



Pruning

1) Why would you want or need to prune your citrus tree? _____

2) Describe the important considerations and proper procedures for pruning your citrus tree for one of the reasons listed above. _____

3) Describe the proper way to prune large limbs from a tree. _____

Cold Tolerance and Freeze Protection

1) Explain the term “quiescence”. At what temperature range does this occur? _____

2) What is cold tolerance? _____

3) What are the best conditions for a tree to develop cold tolerance? _____

4) What conditions tend to reduce cold tolerance? _____

5) What parts of a citrus tree are most vulnerable to freezing? _____

6) Which actually causes the damage to citrus trees, cold or ice? Explain your answer. _____

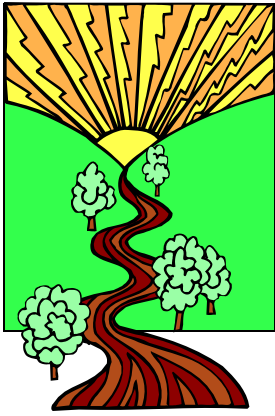
7) At what time/temperature conditions will fruit damage occur? Can this fruit be salvaged?

8) Describe the freeze protection process of soil banking. _____

9) Describe the process of using sprinklers for freeze protection. How does this protect the tree? _____

10) What method(s) of cold protection did you use of this project tree? On other trees planted in the ground? _____

*Opening Inventory ** Items on hand, such as spray bottle*



Item	Number	Opening Value

Total Value #1: _____

*Expenses ** tree, container, potting media*

Date	Item	Cost

Total Value #2: _____

*Closing Inventory ** depreciate all remaining supplies (suggested depreciation is 10% per project year).*

Item	Number	Present value

- 1. Opening Inventory \$ _____
- 2. Expenses +\$ _____
- 3. Closing Inventory - \$ _____
- Total Project Cost =\$ _____

Total Value #3: _____



Your Project Pictures

