

# ***PENNY'S NOTES ON CITRUS GROWING.***

## **Planting & Maintenance -**

- Autumn planting is preferable for best results.
- Aspect – Ideally, Citrus needs 6 hours of sun per day.
- Well drained soil, 5.5 – 6.5 pH (Slightly Acidic)
- If the soil is heavy, plant shallow & build up soil around the tree.
- Citrus roots are quite shallow & need protection. Grow Comfrey around the tree, a half meter from the trunk for weed control.
- Fertilize in Spring & Autumn with Citrus fertilizer.
- Apply mulch around the trunk to protect from rabbits & whipper snipers. Even a small amount of trunk damage can stunt growth.

## **Pests & Diseases –**

- Bronze Orange Bug – Hand pick from the tree & ensure eye protection.
- Citrus Leaf Miner, Aphids & Scale – Spray with Eco Oil.
- Citrus Gall Wasp – cut off affected parts before Spring.
- Crown Rot – Apply a fungicidal poultice.
- Fruit Fly – Utilise traps.
- White Cockatoos & Crows – unfortunately, they love fruit so good luck.

## **Types of Citrus –**

There is a very wide range of Citrus available & the above suggestions generally apply across the board. This list is by no means exhaustive.

- *Oranges* – Navels, Valencias, Cara Cara, Blood, Arnold, Tangelo.
- *Mandarines* – Imperial, Afourer, Honey Murcott, Clementine.
- *Kumquat* – Calamondin, Nagami.
- *Limes* – Tahitian, Persian, Makrut, Desert.
- *Lemons* – Lisbon, Eureka, Lemonade, Bergamot, Chinotto, Yuzu, Finger Lime.
- *Pomelo*
- *Grapefruit*.

If you have any questions, in regard to Citrus or any other plant, please don't hesitate to ask any of our expert members who will be very happy to provide some advice.