

# Double-Purpose Trees For Beauty, Usefulness

If you contemplate setting out trees -- and you should, for nearly every garden can stand more -- give serious thought to double-purpose trees. These can be shade and flowering, shade, flowering and fruiting or shade and nut-producing.

In the first group there are dogwood in red and pink as well as white; the spectacular flowering magnolias, fringe trees, silver bells, redbuds, catala, flowering cherries, the tall pagoda or empress tree and magnifying glass apple like the latter. The first two, plus the cherries, plant in early spring in northern states.

For the next group which produces edible or ornamental fruit as well, start off with apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, quince, orange and lemon or tangerines. All have attractive blossoms. To these, then, add most of the crab apples, the hawthorns or mountain ashes. Of these, plant peaches, cherries and plums only in the spring.

Finally, we come to the nut trees, walnuts, pecans and hickories which make large, broadheaded trees; butternuts, Chinese chestnuts, almonds, hickories. To these add juncos, paw-paws and persimmons which really come under the fruit trees but are less spectacular.

When you have made your decision, and the ideal location for your trees--these are all deciduous or leaf-droppers that they can be planted near the house. They will shade it in the summer and let the sun through in winter.

Then order your trees at once so that you can still get them planted in early spring. As soon as you get them, soak the roots in water for 24 hours.

With your shovel dig a large hole, at the very least 50 percent wider and deeper than the roots spread out. Next, to the soil which was removed add a generous amount of dried cow manure and a good handful of soluble fertilizer for a quick pick-up.

With a hoe mix these into the soil pie thoroughly. Then fill it back in around the roots of the trees, firming it with your feet when two-thirds full and filling the remainder of the hole with water. When the water has drained away, complete filling the hole and make a large ring around the plant to retain water. In most cases set the tree at the same depth it was in the nursery. In dry country mulch over the root area and you will be well on the way to healthy happy trees.

**Now Is the Time To . . .  
Plant a Full Grown Tree**

Full. I have specialized in Shade Trees and have supplied thousands for street plantings, industrial schools, churches and residential. I feel that the right selection of a shade tree is perhaps the most important decision that a home owner is faced with in landscape planning.




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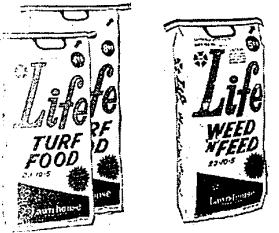
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# Green Thumb Tips

**FREE!** Will your peonies bloom or blight? Send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a copy of my bulletin, *How to Grow Peonies and Iris*, a guide packed full of good tips on raising these fine plants. It will tell you how to prevent blighting or blighting of peonies, so you can have plenty of blossoms.

**FORSYTHIA IS STUBBORN:** Why is it that a forsythia will blossom one year and fail the next? Many believe this is because the birds eat the buds in winter but I doubt if this is the real cause. Some forsythias are harder than others. They may come through the winter and produce green leaves, without producing any buds.

The reason for this, cold winters. The hardest forsythia is F. ovata, earliest to bloom, but less effective. The unlikely form (F. intermedia) is real showy, and so is the drooping form, F. suspensa. However, these quite often have their buds killed.

Forsythias often bloom around the bottom of the bush only. That's because the flower buds are closer to the ground where it's warmer, and are protected by earth and snow. Forsythias which have grown too high can be cut back immediately after flowering is over. If you want to trim your forsythia so it'll be more shapely cut out some of the oldest branches, making the cut about three inches above the ground. Forsythias shouldn't bear sheared into a ball as you remove the flower buds and ruin the beauty of this bush.

**WOOD CHIPS ARE USEFUL:** If you've had a stump removed, no reason why you can't save the chips for a mulch, for the compost or for loosening heavy soils. Scatter them around the base of shrubs and evergreens. Soak them with a liquid feeding of a complete plant food such as 23-10-17. Sometimes chips from elm part a rather peculiar odor, but if lime is sprinkled on them, it disappears.

**of flowers:** An old-fashioned straw mail-holder, filled with carnations, poppies, delphiniums, lily, for example, and hung beside your front door, will add a touch of beauty and create an air of warm welcome for visitors.

Hanging baskets of fresh flowers can brighten your entrance hall, porch, kitchen, dining area or patio.

Large baskets that normally hold mazes are wonderful for large displays of green foliage, such as magnolia leaves, rhododendron and others.

A tallish raffia basket is a very appropriate container for the long, rangy gladioli or snapdragons. This arrangement, mixed with shorter stemmed flowers--freshly cut poppies or zinnias for instance--and some large, dark green leaves would be attractive in front of a fireplace or on a low table.

There are many baskets of unusual shape made especially for hanging on walls. The sprightly daisy is a perfect partner for all of them. Alone, or mixed with lily, daisies can't help but paint a live portrait of spring. Try them in a dark hallway or corner and watch it come to life.

Take a hint and carry spring indoors in a flower-filled basket.

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