

Mayhaw Planting Instructions

Mayhaws produce small apple-like fruits that ripen during late April and early May in south Georgia. The fruits are highly prized for jelly.

Mayhaw trees are small- to medium-sized trees with beautiful white blooms and attractive fruit; they are desirable as ornamentals and for wildlife cover and forage.

Mayhaws are tolerant of wet soils but grow best in moist, well-drained soil. Adjust soil pH to 6.0 to 6.5 prior to planting, using dolomitic limestone.

Dig a hole big enough to accommodate the root system. Bare root trees should be planted the same depth as in the nursery row (or no more than 1-inch below).

Position tree in planting hole and fill with original soil. Do Not add fertilizer to the hole when planting.

Water the tree deeply allowing the water to soak down to the roots

Fertilize the trees with 1 pound of 10-10-10 per inch of trunk diameter in early spring, up to a maximum of 5 pounds per tree. Repeat in July if the trees look pale.

First-year trees should receive 1/4 pound of 10-10-10 in May and 1/4 pound in May and July. Broadcast fertilizer evenly under the tree to avoid burning the roots. Do not apply fertilizer within 8 inches of the trunk. Mayhaw trees are long-lived and may have a 30-foot diameter canopy after 17 years, so plant trees 15 to 20 feet apart in the row with 18 to 20 feet between rows. If mechanical harvesting is desired, adjust row spacing to fit the equipment.

Train mayhaw to a single trunk at the base. The first branches should start at 24-36 inches so equipment can be operated under the tree or people can get under the tree and pick up the fruit. Occasional pruning is necessary to open up the tree for greater light penetration.



