

Finger Lime

Citrus australasica · Rue family, native to Australia

DIFFICULTY Moderate

TYPE Evergreen perennial shrub, native to Australia

MATURITY 3–4 years to first fruit



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
5.5–6.5



SPACING
2–3m



DEPTH
graft union
above soil

01 Australian native citrus

Finger lime is native to the rainforest understorey of eastern Australia, so unlike other citrus it actually tolerates part shade well and prefers slightly more humidity.

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant with the graft union above soil level.
SOIL	Well-drained, slightly acidic, appreciates extra organic matter.
TIMING	Plant in spring, in a sheltered spot.

04 Problems

- **Citrus leaf miner** — prune affected tips.
- **Gall wasp** — prune out before spring.
- **Fruit fly** — net or bag developing fruit.
- **Sunburn on exposed fruit** — dappled shade often suits it better than full baking sun.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY

Native groundcovers

Comfrey

AVOID NEARBY

Full, harsh sun exposure

ROTATION NOTE

Not applicable — perennial shrub.



loose stake, first year

03 Growing care

- Tolerates part shade better than other citrus — useful under taller trees.
- Water regularly; likes slightly more consistent moisture than other citrus.
- Feed lightly with a citrus fertiliser.
- Protect from strong, drying wind.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Fruit is full length and colour for the variety, slightly soft.
METHOD	Cut or twist from the stem.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge, 1–2 weeks.