

CITRUS LIMON



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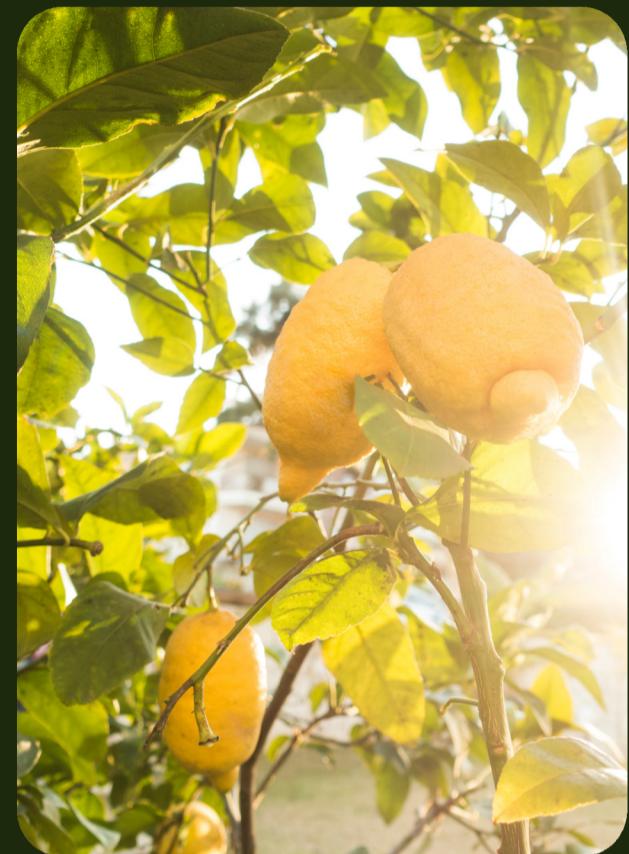
Citrus limon, commonly known as Lemon, is a small evergreen tree belonging to the Rutaceae family. It is known for its lance-shaped, glossy leaves and its fragrant, purplish-white flowers that bloom intermittently throughout the year. Unlike other citrus species, under suitable climatic conditions it has the ability to produce fruit year-round.



The species is believed to have originated in South Asia, particularly in the northeastern region of India. Throughout history, it spread first to the Middle East via trade routes and then to Europe in the 15th century. Today, in Turkey, especially the coastal belt around Mersin, Erdemli, and the area between Mersin and Antalya is one of the world's leading regions for high-quality lemon production.

Cultivation and Uses

The lemon tree requires abundant sunlight and sheltered locations protected from wind. It prefers well-drained, organic-matter-rich, and slightly acidic soils. Among citrus species, it is one of the most sensitive to cold; it can suffer serious damage when temperatures fall below 0 °C. For this reason, in colder regions it is recommended to grow it in containers and move it to protected areas during winter.



In landscaping, it is commonly preferred as a focal-point tree, adding both color and a refreshing atmosphere to the garden. Compact-growing varieties such as 'Meyer' are ideal for container cultivation on terraces and balconies. The aroma released from its leaves freshens the surrounding air and acts as a natural insect repellent. In addition, it is well suited to being pruned and trained into a flat form along walls (espalier).