

# The Backyard Orchard – Citrus Module 1.2 – Kumquat & Calamondin



LSU AgCenter Backyard Orchard Certificate  
Course

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# Kumquat, What Is It?



- *Citrus japonica*, formerly *Fortunella japonica*
- Native to China, first historical reference in the 1100's
- Small, evergreen tree 8-15' tall, 12' wide
- Small round or oval orange-yellow fruit ca. 1" diameter
- Fruits have a sweet peel and a tart pulp, eaten fresh whole or canned
- Ripens mid-October through February
- Easy to grow in containers
- Self-fertile
- Very cold-hardy citrus with few insect and disease problems



# Meiwa

- Commonly referred to as “sweet kumquat”
- Round fruit 1-1.5” diameter
- The fruit pulp is slightly acidic
- The sweet rind is thicker than Nagami and makes the entire fruit seem sweeter.
- Has few seeds.
- Harvest October - February





# Nagami



- Commonly referred to as “sour kumquat”
- Most commonly grown variety
- Small oval fruit, ca. 1.25”L x  $\frac{3}{4}$ ” W
- Fruit has a thin sweet rind surrounding sour pulp
- Each fruit has 5-6 seeds
- Harvest October - February



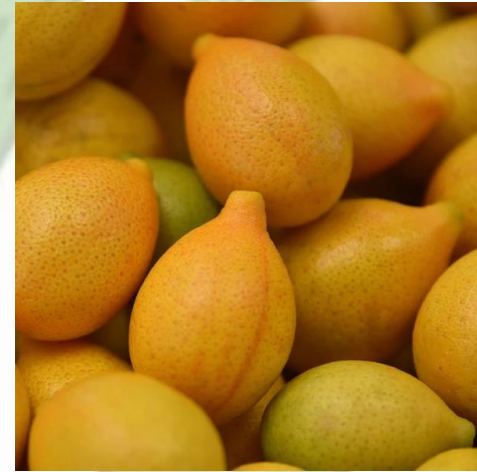


A few other varieties are sometimes available:

- Nordmann
- Marumi
- Fukusho
- Centennial Variegated

And some hybrids:

- Indio Mandarinquat
- Eustis Limequat





# Calamondin



- Calamondin (*C. x macrocarpa*) is a naturally occurring hybrid between kumquat and mandarin
- Native to the Southeast Asia region and very popular in the Philippines and Philippine cuisine.
- Small tree 10-20 ft. tall. Often grown in containers.
- Calamondin was introduced to the U.S. around 1900 as an “acid orange”
- The small round seedy fruit (1-1.5” dia.) is sour with a thin sweet peel much like kumquat.
- It is grown primarily as an ornamental in the U.S. though the entire fruit is edible fresh or in cooking.
- There is a variegated form sometimes marketed as Peters calamondin.





Please post all your questions and results to the message board that was emailed to you.