

Guava

Guava, also known as *Psidium guajava*, is a tropical fruit tree that is native to Central and South America. It's a popular fruit in India, and it's not uncommon to see guava trees growing in Indian gardens. If you're interested in growing guava in your garden, here are some basic steps to follow.

Characteristics	Description
Name	Guava
Scientific Name	<i>Psidium guajava</i>
Height	Guava trees can grow up to 30 feet tall, but are usually pruned to keep them between 10-20 feet tall
Canopy Spread	The canopy spread of a mature guava tree can range from 10 to 20 feet wide
Years for Fruiting	Guava trees typically start producing fruit 2-4 years after planting
Fruits per Tree	A mature guava tree can produce anywhere from 50 to 200 fruits per year, depending on the variety, age, and growing conditions

Different Varieties of Guava Trees

There are many different varieties of guava trees available in India, each with its unique taste and texture. Some of the popular guava varieties that can be planted in Indian gardens include Allahabad Safeda, Lucknow 49, Arka Mridula, and Lalit. It's advisable to choose a variety that is best suited to your region's climate and soil conditions.

Soil and Water Conditions

Guava trees grow best in well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. The soil should be slightly acidic, with a pH level of 5.5 to 7.5. The tree requires regular watering, especially during the growing season. It's important to ensure that the soil is moist but not waterlogged. Overwatering can cause root rot, and under-watering can result in stunted growth.

How to Take Care of the Plant

Guava trees require minimal maintenance, but it's essential to take proper care of the plant to ensure healthy growth and a good yield. The tree should be fertilized regularly with a balanced fertilizer containing nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. The plant should also be pruned regularly to remove dead or diseased branches and to promote new growth. Additionally, it's important to protect the tree from pests and diseases.

Which Part of the Garden Should it be Planted?

Guava trees require a lot of sunlight, so it's best to plant them in an area of the garden that receives plenty of direct sunlight. They should also be planted in an area that is protected from strong winds and frost. Guava trees can grow quite large, so they require a lot of space to grow. It's best to plant them at least 10 to 12 feet away from other trees or structures.

Fruiting and Yield

A guava tree typically takes 2-4 years to start fruiting, depending on the variety and growing conditions. Once the tree

starts fruiting, it can produce a yield of 50 to 100 fruits per year, depending on the tree's size and age.

Conclusion

Growing a guava tree in your garden can be a delightful experience, and with the right care, it can provide you with a bountiful harvest of delicious fruit. By selecting the right variety, providing the tree with adequate water and nutrients, taking proper care of the plant, and planting it in the right location, you can enjoy the sweet taste of fresh guavas straight from your garden.