

Citrus

Can you really grow lemons, limes, and oranges in Michigan? Yes! These tropical trees and bushes will NOT survive our winters outdoors. However, potted citrus plants will delight you with their fragrant blossoms and tasty fruits indoors if you provide a comfortable environment for them. Conveniently, citrus plants are self-fruiting. This means that they do not require pollinators to produce fruits.



Here's what you need to succeed:

- **Sunshine!** These are full-sun plants, requiring at least 8 hours of direct light daily in order to thrive. Place your citrus plant in a south- or southwest-facing window. A sunny outdoor location is suitable when temperatures are reliably above 55°F.
- **Warmth and humidity.** Keep temperatures 55-85°F, especially if you hope to harvest fruit. During winter months when indoor air is driest, you may want to mist your plants occasionally.
- **Consistent watering.** Citrus plants dislike parched soil, so monitor yours regularly and water thoroughly when soil feels dry to the touch. Good drainage is important, so use a light potting mix and never allow your plant to sit in excess water.
- **Regular fertilizing.** Choose a plant food containing more nitrogen (N) than phosphorous (P) or potassium (K), such as Citrus-Tone, and follow packaging instructions for application rate and frequency.