**Transplanting and Caring For Young Citrus Plants**

**1.** Select a site with good drainage that receives at least 6 hours of direct sunlight per day. Clear the area of all

weeds, roots, and other vegetation that can compete for moisture and surface nutrients.

Figure 1 Dig a hole the depth of the plastic container with a width at least three times the width of the container.

Form dirt pile A consisting of surface soil from the first 4 inches (topsoil) and dirt pile B consisting of the rest of the

soil (subsoil). Leave a small mound of soil at the center of the hole ( this is where you will place the tree root ball).

Figure 2 Mix subsoil (B) with citrus potting soil (C). Cut plastic container and carefully remove root ball. Do not

remove bamboo stick. Place the root ball on center mound. The top of the root ball should be about 1 inch above

soil surface to allow for settling. Add soil from pile A first followed by soil from B + C mixture.

Figure 3 Gently press soil around root ball and form a 2 inch high basin 18 inches around the tree. Make sure the

basin is not higher than the bud growth. Place two stakes (north and south) being careful not to drive stakes

through the roots and tie tree and bamboo stick for support (do not tie tree tightly!!). Fill basin with water .

*Figure 1* *Figure 2* *Figure 3*

  

**When should I water?** Three times a week or if soil is dry at 2 inch depth. Do not over water (bad, bad)

During rainy weather undo the basin!!

**When should I add fertilizer?** Young trees should not be fertilized till the first real growing season, so do not fertilize

till Feb. 2018! Use ammonium sulfate 21-0-0 at a rate of 1/3 cup per growth spurt. Apply

fertilizer by forming a ring 18 inches from tree trunk, mix into soil and water plant.

**How do I control pests?** Mix 1 ½ tablespoons of Dawn Dishwashing liquid and 16 ounces of water and place mixture

in a spray bottle and spray tree making sure you get the bottom of leaves too. Do this once

a week to control aphids, mites, and scales. Do this late in the evening.

**New leaves are curling up and white paths are present!!** This damage is caused by the “leafminer”. You need to get

an organic chemical called “spinosad” and apply this to all new growth on the tree. Do this

twice a week. Spinosad is available at Home Depot, Lowes, Target, and sometimes WalMart

or give your local hardware store a visit.

**Additional Questions?? Contact Green Thumb Nursery. We will gladly help you with your plant concerns!**