

# Sunsquat / Lemonquat



**Ripening time is between November and January, bloom time is late winter into early spring. The fragrance of blooming citrus is such a royal treat.**

## **Citrus 'Sunsquat'**

- **Use:** The Lemonquat, also known as Sunquat, is considered by the botanist Swingle as a probable hybrid of the Meyer lemon and the kumquat, and was discovered by Leslie Cude in Beeville (Texas). Its flowering habit resembles the kumquat. The fruit are round or pear shaped, and orange-yellow when ripe. The flesh resembles a lemon, with a pleasantly acidic flavour, which becomes sweeter in March and April. It is fairly cold hardy and fast growing. The rind is edible and very thin.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry. Always hungry citrus need a lot of fertilizer.
- **Growth:** Semi-dwarf; Moderate grower to 10-12 feet tall and 6-8 feet wide
- **Hardiness:** Zone (8)9-11; It's known to be cold hardy down to zone 8, though may need a little protection while still young. Can handle down to 14F in ground. This citrus has proven quite hardy in Augusta, Georgia since 1997 and is hardy than most, but still best to bring indoors in winter.
- **Foliage:** Evergreen, glossy green foliage. Mostly thornless.
- **Flower/Fruit:** Fragrant 1 1/2 - 2" white flowers produce tasty fruit in winter. Mix the sweet taste of a Meiwa kumquat with a little bit of sour lemon and you'll get a novel fruiting citrus called 'Sunquat.' It blooms year-round with highly fragrant flowers much like a kumquat. Unlike other citrus, there is no uniformity to the size of the fruit which is determined more by the size of the plant and the amount of fruit on the tree. The fruit is intended to be eaten like a giant kumquat, skin and all.

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