



# *Mangifera indica* Mango<sup>1</sup>

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## INTRODUCTION

An abundant harvest of juicy, red-gold fruit and attractive dark green, tropical foliage make Mango a popular home landscape item in very large yards for warm climates (Fig. 1). The trees grows to be 30 to 45 feet tall and almost 50 feet wide, so allow plenty of room for growth. New foliage is a brilliant purple-red, and flower and fruit clusters extend well beyond the long, glossy leaves. The tree is covered with very showy, white flower spikes in March and early April. Mango trees grow quickly into round, multibranched, dense, spreading shade trees but placement is limited due to the falling fruit. Some people are allergic to the pollen, the sap and even the fruit.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Mangifera indica*

**Pronunciation:** man-JIFF-er-uh IN-dih-kuh

**Common name(s):** Mango

**Family:** *Anacardiaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 10B through 11 (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** fruit tree; hedge; screen; shade tree; no proven urban tolerance

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

## DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 30 to 45 feet

**Spread:** 30 to 40 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical canopy with a regular (or smooth) outline, and individuals have more



Figure 1. Middle-aged Mango.

or less identical crown forms

**Crown shape:** round

**Crown density:** dense

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** coarse

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire; undulate

**Leaf shape:** lanceolate; oblong

**Leaf venation:** banchidodrome; pinnate

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Leaf type and persistence:** broadleaf evergreen; evergreen  
**Leaf blade length:** 12 to 18 inches; 8 to 12 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** no fall color change  
**Fall characteristic:** not showy

### Flower

**Flower color:** white  
**Flower characteristics:** showy; spring flowering; winter flowering

### Fruit

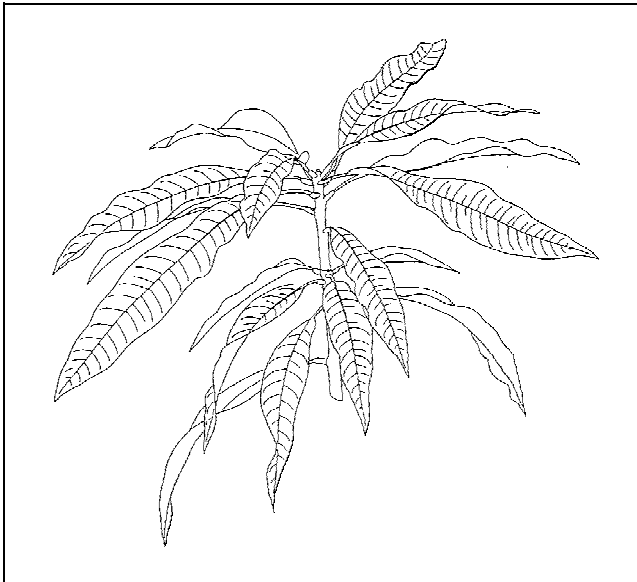
**Fruit shape:** oval  
**Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches  
**Fruit covering:** fleshy  
**Fruit color:** green; red; yellow  
**Fruit characteristics:** attracts squirrels and other mammals; suited for human consumption; fruit, twigs, or foliage cause significant litter; persistent on the tree; showy

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; not particularly showy; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns  
**Pruning requirement:** requires pruning to develop strong structure  
**Breakage:** susceptible to breakage either at the crotch due to poor collar formation, or the wood itself is weak and tends to break  
**Current year twig color:** brown; gray  
**Current year twig thickness:** medium; thick

### Culture

**Light requirement:** tree grows in full sun  
**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; alkaline; well-drained  
**Drought tolerance:** moderate  
**Aerosol salt tolerance:** moderate



**Figure 3.** Foliage of Mango.

## **Diseases**

Anthracnose on fruit and leaves is a serious problem for Mango.

## **Other**

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding tree:** not particularly outstanding

**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time

**Pest resistance:** very sensitive to one or more pests or diseases which can affect tree health or aesthetics

## **USE AND MANAGEMENT**

Mango trees grow best in full sun on fertile, well-drained soils and should have ample moisture. Leaf, flower, twig and fruit litter is a constant nuisance for some, and branches are subject to breakage during severe windstorms. It seems like something is always falling from a Mango tree to litter the lawn. Place it in a bed with other plants to hide the litter.

There are several cultivars available which have been selected for fruit quality: 'Keitt', 'Hent', 'Edward', 'Glenn', 'Haden' and others are best for Florida; 'Alolia', 'Edgehill', 'Haden', 'Manila' and others are recommended for California.

Propagation is by budding or veneer grafting on seedling rootstocks.

## **Pests**

Scales followed by sooty mold and Mediterranean fruit fly are pests of this tree.