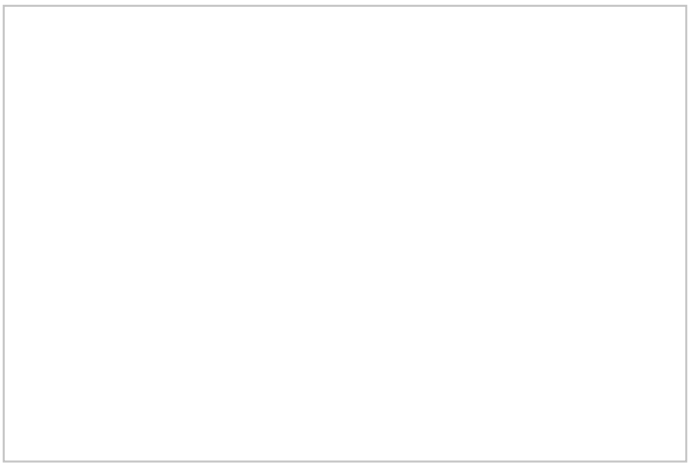
The calamondin



Calamansi (*Citrus microcarpa*, *Citrofortunella microcarpa, Citrus mitis* or *Citrofortunella mitis*), also known as calamondin or Philippine lime, is an economically important citrus hybrid predominantly cultivated in the Philippines. It is native to the Philippines and surrounding areas in southern China, Taiwan, Borneo, and Sulawesi. Calamansi is ubiquitous in traditional Filipino cuisine. It is used in various condiments, beverages, dishes, marinades, and preserves. Calamansi is also used as an ingredient in the cuisines of Malaysia and Indonesia.

Calamansi is a citrofortunella, a hybrid between kumquat (formerly considered as belonging to a separate genus *Fortunella*) and another species of *Citrus* (in this case probably the mandarin orange). The calamondin, is a shrub or small tree growing to 3 6 m (9.8 19.7 ft). The plant is characterized by wing-like appendages on the leaf petioles and white or purplish flowers. The fruit of the calamansi resembles a small, round lime, usually 25 35 mm (0.98 1.38 in) in diameter, but sometimes up to 45 mm (1.8 in). The center pulp and juice is the orange color of a tangerine with a very thin orange peel when ripe. Each fruit contains 8 to 12 seeds.

The plant is sensitive to prolonged and/or extreme cold and is therefore limited outdoors to tropical, sub-tropical and the warmer parts of warm temperate climates (USDA zones 8b - 11). Potted plants are brought into a greenhouse, conservatory, or indoors as a houseplant during the winter periods in regions with cooler climates.

Category: Citrus
Families: Rutaceae
Genus: Citrus
Species: mitis (=microcarpa)
Geographical Area of Origin: South-East Asia
Climatic Zones: Sub-tropical, USDA 10 b (Southern Italy and islands)
Habit: Tree
Leaves: Evergreen
Colore Foglie: Verde

Flowering Period: Gennaio / Febbraio / Settembre / Ottobre / Novembre / Dicembre
Flower: Simple flower
Colore Fiori: Bianco
Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Middle-Dough / Medium soil
Water needs: Medium
Light Exposure: Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun
Form: Bowl / Espalier / Inverted cone / Tree / Grown as shrub / bush
Colore Frutti: Arancione
Parfumed: yes