

Chart Key

-  Part Shade / Part Sun
-  Full Sun
-  Low water needs / high drought tolerance
-  Medium water needs/ average drought tolerance

* Plant sizes are based on averages and may vary drastically by cultivar and growing conditions

Edible landscaping can provide one with the opportunity to produce their own food using sustainable agricultural practices that conserve water, protect water quality, provide wildlife habitat, and reduce the use of chemical inputs.

Pollinators & Pesticides

Flowering plants provide nectar and pollen for honey bees and native pollinators that include many species of bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, flies, and birds. By adding pollinator plants to your edible landscape, your plants will bear more fruit, pest and disease pressure will be reduced, and you'll provide critical habitat for pollinators in peril. Identify an insect before you treat, avoid using chemical pesticides and spot treat with the least toxic methods first such as with neem oil or horticultural soaps. Always follow label instructions.

UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service

M. Bailey and A. Marek (2021)

2232 NE Jacksonville Rd.

Ocala, FL 34470

Ph: 352-671-8400

E: marion@ifas.ufl.edu

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Edibles for your Landscape



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Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM



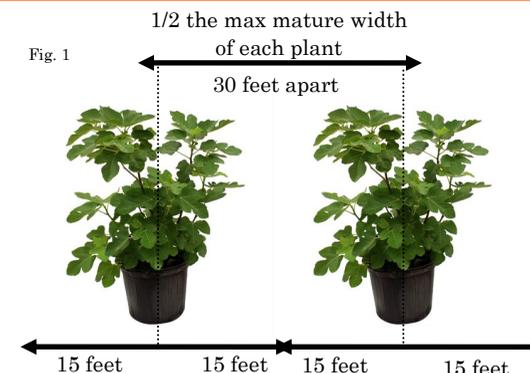
The #1 Principle of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ is Right Plant, Right Place. Plants suited for the site conditions will need less care and maintenance to be attractive and productive. Your edible landscape can conserve water, protect water quality, and be attractive and productive by selecting the right edible and non-edible plants for your landscape conditions.

Light & Temperature

- Choose varieties suitable for your cold hardiness zone. Marion County is in zone 9A.
- Select low-chill varieties (ex. blueberries)
- Plant less cold-hardy plants on the south or south-west side of your property, near pavement or large trees
- Most edibles do best in full sun
- Keep in mind changes in light conditions when plants mature

Soil & Spacing

- Soil pH and nutrients – Don't Guess, Get a Soil Test! Having the pH correct is critical for edible plants
- Spacing – know the mature size of a plant before you plant it. Good spacing allows for better air flow and sunlight = fewer pests, diseases & better production. Give vines plenty of space to avoid smothering.
- Measure spacing from the center of one plant to the center of the next (Figure 1)
- Maintain shrubs about 3 feet from buildings and at least 15 feet of distance for



Design Considerations

- Intermix evergreen with deciduous plants: add winter annuals or evergreen plants that don't lose their leaves with deciduous plants to avoid bare areas in winter.
- Seasonality: have a diversity of plants that produce blooms and/or fruit in different seasons for year-long interest, color and fruit production
- Select pest and disease resistant varieties
- If you live in an HOA, always get HOA approval first!

Plant Establishment

Once a plant can survive on its own without irrigation, it is established. Florida-friendly plants typically require little to no irrigation once established but water regularly until then.

The larger the plant the longer it will take to get established: trees = 2 years, shrubs = 1 year, smaller plants = 3—6 months

Apply 2-3 inches of mulch around plant to suppress weeds and maintain moisture. Micro-irrigation is ideal for water conservation.



Blueberry



Fig



Loquat



Mulberry



Muscadine



Passion Fruit



Persimmon



Pineapple Guava



Rosemary



Yaupon Holly

Common Name	Scientific Name	Native	Edible	Harvest Time	Light	Water Needs	*Height x Width	Climate Zone	Notes
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>	Yes	Fruit	Spring			5' x 3'	7-9	Southern highbush develop blueberries earlier than rabbiteye. Select low-chill cultivars. Prefer acidic soils. Need two different cultivars of the same type to bear fruit.
Fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	No	Fruit	Summer			15' x 20'	6-10	Rapid growth. Closed "eye" varieties have less fruit loss from pests. Deciduous, attractive broad leaves, various fruit colors. Self-pollinating cultivars recommended only.
Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	No	Fruit	Spring			15' x 20'	8-10	Well-adapted to a range of conditions. Consistently produces fruit once mature with no fertilizer. Fruit turn orange and soft when ripe. Evergreen, medium-sized shade tree.
Mulberry	<i>Morus spp.</i>	Some	Fruit	Spring			30' x 30'	7-10	<i>Morus rubra</i> is native, grows 40'+. Black mulberry grow smaller and bushier. Dwarf 'Everbearing' grow up to 15'. Deciduous, fast growing. Red, black or white fruit.
Muscadine grape	<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	Yes	Fruit	Summer—Fall			5' x 15'	7-10	Deciduous vine. Need self-fertile or compatible varieties for pollination. Fruit have seeds and may be bronze (scuppernongs), black or purple. Need well drained soils.
Passion fruit	<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	No	Fruit	Summer			5' x 25'	9B-13	Short-lived, evergreen, perennial vine with highly attractive flowers. Rapid growth in well-drained rich soil. Fruit may be purple or yellow when ripe. Cold sensitive.
Persimmon	<i>Diospyros spp.</i>	Some	Fruit	Fall—Winter			20' x 15'	4B-9B	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> is native and can grow 40'+. Many Japanese persimmon cultivars, sizes vary. Small-med deciduous tree. Orange fruit may be astringent or non.
Pineapple Guava	<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	No	Flower/ Fruit	Fall			10' x 15'	8A-11	Edible red & white flowers bloom April-May. 2" oval fruit turn brown when ripe. Evergreen privacy hedge / small tree, blue-green leaves. 'Bambina' is a dwarf cultivar.
Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	No	Leaves	Any time			4' x 5'	8-11	Small evergreen shrub. Leaves are used as an herb either fresh or dried. Flowers are highly attractive to pollinators. Can be pruned to shape and potted.
Yaupon Holly	<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yes	Leaves	Any time			15' x 10'	7A-9B	Female plants produce small, red, inedible berries consumed readily by birds. Leaves contain caffeine and are used for tea.