

Dwarf Pomegranate

Punica granatum L.

The dwarf pomegranate is a deciduous, thorny shrub. Dwarf pomegranate is used for ornamental purposes rather than for fruit. The flowers have an orange-red corolla and the edge of the petals is flesh-colored. When cultivated outdoors the deciduous leaves start out the year bronzy, develop to a brightly shimmering green and end the year an attractive shade of yellow. It is not only small in stature, but even the flowers and fruit are dwarfed. Pomegranates in North Florida mature from July to November. The plants thrive in a semi-arid atmosphere and once established need very little water. Fertilize on a monthly basis. Once flowering has begun in mid to late summer the plant should be watered more frequently to produce lots of flowers. The plants will bear miniature fruit if grown in areas with year-round temperatures that rarely fall below 40° F.

Type: perennial deciduous shrub

USDA hardiness zones: 7 through 11

Uses: hedge; specimen; accent; container

Origin: not native to Florida

Height: 2 to 4 feet **Spread:** 2 to 4 feet

Plant spacing: 36 to 60 inches

Light requirement: full sun to part shade

Soil tolerances: slightly acidic; loam; sand; clay

Soil salt tolerances: poor

Invasive potential: low

Pest resistance: long-term health usually not affected by pests

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Photo: Photo: NC State U / JC Raulston Arboretum