

Unusual Fruit Trees in South Gippsland

Rhys Freeman

Casimiroa edulis

White Sapote

- Origin : South America
- Family : *Rutaceae* (Citrus relative)
- Frost and heat tolerant, resists cinnamon fungus
- Prefers moisture, sunny well drained position
- Grafted varieties required – fruits best with a pollinator
- Susceptible to snail and slug attack

Casimiroa edulis

White Sapote

- Flavour : A mixture of Canteloupe, Pear, Banana
- Heavy fruiting – sometimes twice a year
- Source : subtropical nurseries, CERES, Daley's Nursery

Casimiroa edulis
White Sapote



Annona cherimola

Cherimoya, Custard Apple

- Origin : South America
- Family : *Annonaceae*
- Warm temperate climate, frost sensitive
- Prefers moisture, sunny well drained position
- Grafted varieties required
- Deciduous in spring, new leaves grow immediately
- Requires hand pollination (early January onwards)

Annona cherimola

Cherimoya, Custard Apple

Flavour : creamy, subtropical, unique



Asimina triloba

American Paw Paw, Poor Man's Banana

- Origin : Eastern USA – southern to almost Canada
- Family : *Annonaceae*
- Temperate climate, frost tolerant
- Prefers very reliable moisture, part shade/full sun, well drained position
- Best position : river floodplains
- Grafted varieties required

Asimina triloba

American Paw Paw, Poor Man's Banana

- Flavour : Similar to a banana
- Cottage industries in eastern USA, farmer's markets
- Source : Yamina Rare Plants

Asimina triloba

American Paw Paw, Poor Man's Banana



Carica stipulata x *C. Pubescens*
Babaco

- Origin : South America
- Family : *Caricaceae*
- Temperate climate, very frost sensitive
- Prefers moisture, full sun, well drained position
- Deciduous in winter in South Gippsland
- Source : easy to propagate, good subtropical nurseries

Carica stipulata x *C. Pubescens*
Babaco

Flavour : Lemon flavoured melon (requires sugar)



Macadamia integrifolia, *M.*
Tetraphylla, and hybrids
Macadamia

- Origin : Subtropical Australia
- Family : *Proteaceae*
- Subtropical climate (NSW), a little frost sensitive
- Prefers moisture, full sun, well drained position
- Heavy fruiting with the right varieties
- Source : most good nurseries – do not purchase seedlings though

Macadamia integrifolia, *M.*
Tetraphylla, and hybrids (A4, A16)
Macadamia



Jubaea chilensis

Chilean Wine Palm

- Origin : Chilean mountains
- Family : *Areaceae*
- Cool temperate, but tolerates wide variety of conditions (heat, drought)
- Prefers full sun, well drained position
- Very slow growing

Jubaea chilensis
Chilean Wine Palm

- Fruit : mini coconuts
- Heavy fruiter in autumn
- 15+ years to harvest
- Source : Rare, difficult to find

Jubaea chilensis
Chilean Wine Palm



Acronychia oblongifolia, *Acronychia acidula*

Lemon Aspen

- Origin : East coast rainforests (inc. some Victorian)
- Family : *Rutaceae*
- Subtropical climate, frost sensitive
- Prefers moisture, full sun, well drained position
- Heavy fruiting, very hardy
- Source : Daley's nursery. Propagate from root suckers

Acronychia oblongifolia, *Acronychia
acidula*
Lemon Aspen



Other bush food trees

Will fruit here

- *Tasmannia lanceolata* (Mountain Pepper)
- *Eucalyptus olida* (Strawberry Gum)
- *Backhousia citriodora* (Lemon Myrtle)
- *Syzygium anisatum* (Aniseed Myrtle)
- *Syzygium luehmanii* (Riberry)
- *Hicksbeachia pinnatifolia* (Red Bopple Nut)
- *Podocarpus elatus* (Ilawarra Plum)

Questions?