



Asian Pear



Asian Pears from Mill Creek Urban Farm (POP).

Latin Name: *Pyrus pyrifolia*, *Pyrus ussuriensis*

Recommended Cultivars: Shinko, Chojuro, Kosui, Tsu Li

Native region: Japan, China, Korea

Growing Zones: 5-9

Mature Size: Depending on the rootstock, dwarf trees grow 8-10', semi-dwarfs grow 15-18', and standards grow 18'+.

Pruning Tree Form: Central Leader

Pollination Requirements: Generally two different cultivars required, not all are compatible

Light Requirements: Full Sun

Harvest Window: Aug-Sept, depending on variety.

Maintenance Level: Moderate

Common Pest and Disease Issues: Fire Blight, Plum Curculio, Apple Cedar Rust

Tree Care and Harvest



WATERING: Water twice a week for the first month, and once a week until dormant for the remainder of the year after planting. Aim for 7-10 gallons of water per week, per tree.



WINTER: Annual [winter pruning](#) is necessary during the plant's dormant period. Use branch spreaders to widen narrow crotch angles. Spray starting during bud stages (Feb or March) - [Serenade](#) for [fire blight](#); neem oil for [apple cedar rust](#).



SPRING Support tree with biweekly feedings (spray or root drench) of compost tea or EM-1. Thin fruit to 5" apart in May/June. Pick up all dropped fruits.



SUMMER: Monitor trees weekly, especially in humid or wet climates. Pick up all dropped fruits. Prune out fire blight 6"-12" below any signs of it. Keep 3' ring around tree weeded and mulched.



FALL: Late fall compost application. Prune out fire blight and pick up dropped fruits. Spray beneficial nematodes to help manage plum curculio larvae in the soil.



Harvest: Asian Pears usually ripen in August or September. Asian pears are reminiscent of a sweet crunchy apple, but with a delicate crunch and pear aromatics. Ripe Asian pears on russeted cultivars will change from green to light brown or orange and from green to greenish-yellow on smoother skinned varieties. They ripen on the tree and are best eaten when firm and crispy. Asian pears will keep for 1-2 weeks at room temperature and about 3 months in cold refrigeration.