

ALMONDS

Cultivar	Estimated Chill Hours Required	Fruit Season	Pollinator	Comments
All in One	150-200	Late	None Needed	Semi-dwarf tree grows 15-20 feet. Showy white blossoms.
Garden Prince	150-200	Late	None Needed	Genetically small tree grows 8-12 feet. Pink blossoms.
Ne Plus Ultra	250-350	Mid	All in One	
Nonpareil	250-350	Early	All in One	Leading commercial variety. Ne Plus Ultra is a reliable pollinator primarily in the Northwest.
Texas	250-350	Late	All in One	Late blooming. Nut is slightly bitter.

BLACK WALNUTS

My experience in growing Black Walnuts in Southern California is very limited. These cultivars seem to have promise and are worth trying in the warm climates of S. CA. Most varieties benefit or require cross pollination. The chilling requirements of these cultivars is unknown.

‘Mintle’ is a small nut reputed to have the best flavor of all black walnuts. Can be stored at room temperature for 2 years without becoming rancid.

‘Myers’ is a standard cultivar noted for its very thin shell and good cracking qualities.

‘Thomas’ is the most popular variety grown for the nuts. This has a thin shell that is easy to crack. Needs pollination by any other black walnut.

Stark ‘Black Gem’ produces huge crops of light-colored, high quality black walnuts. Thin husks slip off easily without the usual mess.

‘Vandersloot’ is outstanding for its large nut size, kernel weight, and its good cracking quality. Resistant to anthracnose leaf spot.

CHESTNUTS

Cultivar	Estimated Chill Hours Required	Pollinator Required	Comments
Colossal	300-400	Yes	Hybrid of Chinese, Japanese, and European chestnuts. Large to very large, sweet nuts.
Colossal Seedlings	300-400	Yes	Variable fruit quality.
Dunstan	?	Yes	American and Chinese hybrid. Large nuts of excellent quality.
Silver Leaf	300-400	Yes	Nuts slightly smaller than that of 'Colossal'. The underside of the leaf develops beautiful silver-grey color.

PECANS

Cultivar	Estimated Chill Hours Required	Fruit Season	Pollinator	Comments
Cherokee	350-500	Early	Choctaw, Mohawk & Wichitah	Medium nut. Thin soft shell.
Cheyenne	350-500	Mid	Choctaw, Mohawk & Wichitaw	Smaller tree. Semi-soft shell. Needs long, hot growing season.
Choctaw	350-500	Mid	Cheyenne & Western Schley	Large nut. Thin shell.
Kiowa	250-350	Mid	None Needed	Best self-fruitful variety where growing season is long. Large nut.
Mohawk	250-350	Mid	Cheyenne & Western Schley	Very large nut. Thin shell.
Tejas	350-500	Mid	None Needed	Best variety for areas with shorter growing seasons and cooler summers.
Western Schley	250-350	Late	Mohawk & Wichitah	Medium nut with thin shell. Tolerant of zinc deficiency.
Wichitah	250-350	Mid	Cheyenne & Western Schley	Medium nut. Tree has weak crotches. May be difficult to grow.

ENGLISH WALNUTS

Cultivar	Estimated Chill Hours Required	Fruit Season	Pollinizer	Comments
Chandler	300 - 600	Mid	Hartley	Excellent quality. Most promising of the U.C. introductions
Hartley	300 - 600	Mid	None Needed	Good nut quality.
Payne	250 - 450	Mid		Excellent Quality. Smaller tree size.
Pedro	300-400	Mid	None Needed	Tree is smaller than other walnuts, 2/3 size of other walnuts. Has one of the finest flavored nuts, winner of many taste tests.
Placentia	150-200	Mid	None Needed	Excellent quality, large nuts.

MACADAMIA

Cultivar	Macadamia Species	Comments
Burdick	M. tetraphylla	Large nut with thin shell. Originating in Encinitas, Ca. This variety bears heavily every year with harvest season primarily in October.
Cate	M. tetraphylla	Large nut with a thin shell and excellent quality meat. The leading commercial variety in Ca. Harvest over two month period.
Dr. Beaumont (Beaumont)	Hybrid	The showy display of pink blossoms this tree produces makes it a favorite for its ornamental beauty as well as for its nuts. The nuts are medium-large and of very good quality. Harvest season is for many months averaging from October - April.
Dorado	M. integrifolia	Very Productive. Somewhat slow to start bearing. Very good quality
Elimbah	M. tetraphylla	Large nut of good quality. Produces nuts nearly year round.
James	M. integrifolia	Medium sized, very good quality nut. Extremely productive. Bears at an early age.
Vista	Hybrid	Small to medium nut, excellent quality. Shell very thin, can be cracked in an ordinary hand cracker. Recommended for both home garden and commercial plantings.
Wiamanola	M. integrifolia	Large nuts with good flavor. Somewhat slow to start bearing

MALABAR CHESTNUT

(Bombax glabra)

A beautiful ornamental tree which develops a swollen base and has large deeply lobed leaves. The tree is evergreen in warmer years but may go briefly deciduous during the colder months. A moderately fast growing tree usually reaching no more than 12-15 feet in California's climate. Beautiful flowers which are produced throughout the summer are short lived and give rise to nut pods 6-10 inches long which resemble a child's football. These pods encase 6-30 one inch nut meats that are soft in texture and resemble 'chestnuts' in flavor.



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