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A round-up of interesting stories, videos, and articles from the web, on our favorite subject



Library

The New York Times had an article on the decline of fig tree wrapping in metro NYC, back in February of 2010. Here's the link:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/16/nyregion/16figtrees.html>

And here's a couple of articles from the Telegraph, in the UK.

One's a delicious-sounding recipe for figs in salted butter toffee with Marsala and Greek yogurt & cream:

Link: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/recipes/6194755/Fig-recipe-figs-in-salted-butter-caramel-with-yogurt-cream.html>

and the other is an overview of what to do with ripe figs (besides just eat them as is, of course):

Link: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/recipes/6192912/Easy-ways-with-figs.html>



Fig Tree Varieties Spring/Summer 2010

- [Brown Turkey](#)
- [Celeste](#)
- [Marseilles](#)
- [Verte](#)
- [Magnolia](#)
- [Melanzana](#)
- [Jelly](#)

If you're interested in a particular variety, it's always a good idea to call us or send us an email to check our stock levels.

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- [California Fruit Growers](#)
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- [The Helpful Gardener](#)

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Welcome to Italianfigtrees.com!

We really like fig trees. Growing fig trees, selling fig trees, [talking about fig trees](#)...and eating the figs we've grown ourselves.

Background

For over 24 years, we've been doing something a little unusual: growing Mediterranean figs in northwestern NJ (Zone 5-6).

It was only natural that we'd start selling them to other like-minded individuals.

As it turns out, there's a strong connection between fig trees and people who grew up in or near the Italian communities of the NY/NJ tri-state area. Many of our customers share stories about their fathers and grandfathers wrapping or burying the family tree for the winter ahead, and they have fond childhood memories of eating a fig straight from the tree.

We've dedicated almost a quarter of a century to sharing the pleasure of fruit grown in the summer sun, harvested minutes before eating, by you.

A New Crop of Growers

Lately, thanks to the writing of people like Michael Pollan and Barbara Kingsolver, more and more people have gotten involved in raising their own food. Figs are relatively easy to grow, taste great fresh from the tree, and also can be preserved in a number of ways, to enjoy all year long. We think you'll agree that the taste of a fig that was just picked is so much better than the taste of a fig that's been transported for hundreds (or even thousands) of miles!

Give Them a Tree

Stuck for something to give someone with a green thumb? Fig trees make great gifts for your favorite gardener or kitchen gardener, and can live for decades, with proper care.

Talk to Us

For directions, prices, & hours, call: (908) 832-7770. We're in Hunterdon County, and yes, it's easy to get lost out here.

Home

(We don't sell trees online. If you want one, you have to come and see us, either at the farmer's markets listed to the right, or at our location (call for directions). If you're not in the NJ area, you are welcome to browse the site and email us your fig tree questions. Eventually, we'd like to be able to take more of your questions and turn them into new FAQs. We'll be posting photos throughout the season, and we'll be posting our photos of how we wrap our in-ground trees for winter. So please come back often.)

Important note: Please check the [blog](#) for updates, and our selling schedule for 2010. There is always the chance that our schedule will change, due to unforeseen circumstances or inclement weather.



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Chances are that whatever you're wondering about your tree, we've been asked already. Check out the FAQs below for possible answers

1. How many trees do I need to grow, to get figs? And, do figs need pollination?
2. Is it better to grow fig trees in the ground or in a tub?
3. Do fig trees need regular feeding?
4. Is much pruning required?
5. Are fig trees easy to propagate?

1. How many trees do I need to grow, to get figs? Do figs need pollination?

Answer: You only need one. Italian (mediterranean) fig trees are self-pollinating. This means that you only need one tree to get figs, and you don't need any help from bees or other pollinators.

2. Is it better to grow fig trees in the ground or in a tub?

Answer: That depends on your situation. If you have a sunny, protected spot, you should definitely use it. Remember, you will need to protect (wrap) your tree to bring it safely through the winter. Figs grown in tubs need only to be brought into a basement or garage for the winter.

3. Do fig trees need regular feeding?

Answer: If grown in the ground, one feeding each season is sufficient. Potted figs need regular light feedings or one all-season feeding.

4. Is much pruning required?

Answer: It's practical to keep potted figs on the smaller side, to facilitate moving them to their winter quarters. We moved our potted trees outside in May, and some of the pots weighed more than 70-80 lbs! Fig trees grown in the ground should be kept at a height which permits winter protection (wrapped insulation) to be applied without becoming too much of a chore.

5. Are fig trees easy to propagate?

Answer: Fig trees are easy to root and grow from cuttings or layers. You can find lots of information on how to propagate fig trees by doing a Google search, or you can also ask us your questions, on the site, or call us at 908.832.7770.

FAQS

Don't see your question here? [Send it to us!](#)



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Fig trees are semi-tropical in origin. They thrive in areas where winter temperatures do not drop below 15 °F (-10 °C). Very young trees can be damaged by fall frosts when the temperature falls below 25 ° F (-4 °C). Fig trees will grow in a variety of soils ranging from sandy loams to clay loams.

Planting

When planting, it is best to prune the tree back to 24" or 30" (60 cm or 75 cm), unless the tree is already branched. The hole should be 3 times the diameter of the root ball. Mix in a handful of lime when you backfill and water well. Do not fertilize the tree at planting time. Young trees benefit from the placement of a stake (support) upon planting.

Pruning

Always prune branches to an outward facing bud (similar to roses). This will result in the tree having an open center to permit the entry of air and light. All pruning should take place while the tree is dormant.

Fertilizing

Fig trees are not heavy feeders, however, if the growth is not satisfactory, they may be fed with a fruit tree fertilizer. A mulch of limestone chips will be beneficial to the tree.

Exposure

As much sun as possible.

Winter Protection

The trees are ideally planted near a south facing wall or solid fence. When the tree becomes dormant in the fall they should be wrapped with some insulating material. Some choices are:

- Carpet
- Blankets, Quilts
- Foam Under-Carpet

Growing Guide

- Layers of Canvas
- Pink Fiberglass

All insulating material should extend from the ground to the top of the plant. This should be topped with a plastic sheet or large plastic bag in order to keep the insulation dry. Under no circumstances should the plastic contact the tree itself.

Planting in Containers

The culture of fig trees in containers is becoming more common today. In many cold winter areas, this is the most practical way of growing them. Figs in containers can be stored in basements or attached garages. If an unheated and unattached garage is the only option, the tree should be wrapped before storing.

Figs in storage during winter should not be watered except perhaps one cup of water per month to prevent the soil from becoming powdery. The tree should be dormant when it is brought indoors. A dormant tree is leafless. The tree should be checked during the winter to see if it has started growing. If the tree has come into growth, it must be brought into good light immediately. The tree can be prevented from coming into growth prematurely by keeping it in a cold and dark location.

The tree should be moved to the outdoors (if dormant) around mid spring. If the tree has leaves, you must wait until after the last frost. Trees may be moved to a larger container every year until you have reached the largest pot you can handle. At this point the tree should be root pruned every three years and replaced in the same pot. Container grown plants will also benefit from a limestone chip mulch.

Propagation

Fig trees may be propagated from semi-woody cuttings of 12 inches in length. Place the cutting in a pot containing a sterile rooting medium (vermiculite). Put a plastic bag over the pot and place it in a spot which has good light but no direct sun. Check frequently for rooting. When rooting occurs (about 6 weeks), gently lift and place in potting soil, water well, and grow on!

Note: You can click on the PDF link in the sidebar to download and print this guide to your computer.



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Happy Father's Day

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 7:10 pm *June 4, 2012*

A friendly reminder: we'll be closed for Father's Day (June 17th). Enjoy the day & if you need a fig tree for Dad, make sure to come on Saturday instead.

Thanks!

Comments Off

We're running out of trees!

Filed under: [stock levels](#) — IFT @ 9:06 am *July 26, 2010*

Hi friends,

We have 10 trees left! This is the earliest we've gotten this low in stock: please give us a call, to see if we have what you're looking for...we'd hate for you to waste a trip.

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Some new fig pictures for 2010

Filed under: [photos](#) — Tags: [figs](#), [marselles](#), [Melanzana](#), [ripe figs](#) — IFT @ 8:32 am *June 8, 2010*

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First, the Marselles, which we picked this morning, so it had a bit of the morning chill to it:

The italianfigtrees.com Blog



Marseilles fig, ripening



Marseilles, ripe fig harvested

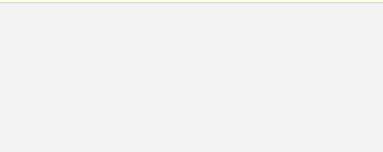


Ripe Marseilles fig, split to show coloration

And now the Melanzana! Picked yesterday evening, while it was still warm from the sun.

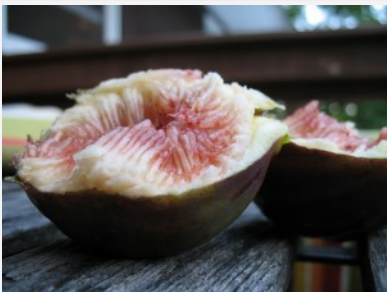


Ripening Melanzana figs





This particular Melanzana fig is huge!



Melanzana fig, split to show coloration

Well, we hope you enjoyed the photos!

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GUIDE TO GROWING FIG TREES IN THE NORTHEAST

Fig trees are semi-tropical in origin. They thrive in areas where winter temperatures do not drop below 15 °F (-10 °C). Very young trees can be damaged by fall frosts when the temperature falls below 25 °F (-4 °C).

Fig trees will grow in a variety of soils ranging from sandy loams to clay loams.

PLANTING

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PRUNING

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FERTILIZING

Fig trees are not heavy feeders, however, if the growth is not satisfactory, they may be fed with a fruit tree fertilizer. A mulch of limestone chips will be beneficial to the tree.

EXPOSURE

As much sun as possible.

WINTER PROTECTION

The trees are ideally planted near a south-facing wall or solid fence. When the tree becomes dormant in the fall they should be wrapped with some insulating material. Some choices are:

Carpet	Layers of Canvas
Blankets/Quilts	Pink Fiberglass
Foam Under-Carpet	

All insulating material should extend from the ground to the top of the plant. This should be topped with a plastic sheet or large plastic bag in order to keep the insulation dry. Under no circumstances should the plastic contact the tree itself.

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PROPAGATION

The tree should be moved to the outdoors (if dormant) around mid spring. If the tree has leaves, you must wait until after the last frost. Trees may be moved to a larger container every year until you have reached the largest pot you can handle. At this point the tree should be root pruned every three years and replaced in the same pot. Container grown plants will also benefit from a limestone chip mulch.

Fig trees may be propagated from semi-woody cuttings of 12 inches in length. Place the cutting in a pot containing a sterile rooting medium (vermiculite). Put a plastic bag over the pot and place it in a spot which has good light but no direct sun. Check frequently for rooting. When rooting occurs (about 6 weeks), gently lift and place in potting soil, water well, and grow on.

Available Fig Tree Varieties (Pick Up Only)

Celeste	Medium size fruit, light brown, violet blush, heavy bearer, relatively hardy, very sweet
Brown Turkey	Large size fruit, brown, heavy bearer, relatively hardy, sweet
Marseilles	Medium size fruit, yellow, good bearer, very sweet
Verte	Medium size fruit, green, good bearer, relatively hardy, sweet
Magnolia	Large size fruit, brown-yellow, sweet
Melanzana	Large size fruit, brown-purple, sweet
Jelly	Good size fruit, yellow, similar to Marseilles



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Update for 2010 Selling Season

Filed under: [From Al](#) — IFT @ 2:04 pm *April 21, 2010*

The bad news: we won't be able to do the farmers markets this year.
The good news: we're putting out more trees every day, so give us a call!

Comments Off

Gearing up for the season & Happy Easter

Filed under: [From Al](#) — IFT @ 12:56 pm *April 4, 2010*

The italianfigtrees.com Blog



Small Grouping: Fig Trees For Sale

To all our friends who celebrate Easter, we wish you a Happy Easter. And a Happy Passover, to all of our friends celebrating Passover. We hope you're having a wonderful weekend, either way. Here, it's well into the 70's, with lots of sun. We've got tons of work to do to get ready for the selling season, but we're just so happy that the rain has finally stopped that we really don't care.

While the trees are just starting to be brought out from their winter home, we're very happy to take your calls & email about fig trees. The best time for calling is 9AM to 7PM EST, 7 days a week, and you can email us anytime: we try to respond to all emails in a couple of days, but always within a week. Just click on the "Contact" link in the menu to send us an email.

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Filed under: [photos](#) — Tags: [figs](#), [marseilles](#), [Melanzana](#), [ripe figs](#) — IFT @ 8:32 am *June 8, 2010*

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Marseilles fig, ripening

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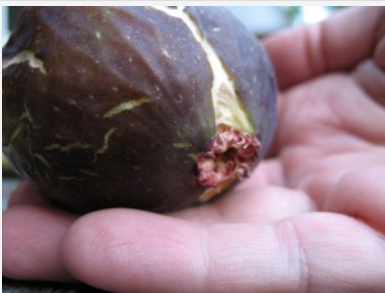


Ripe Marseilles fig, split to show coloration

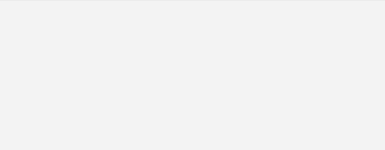
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Marseilles, ripe fig harvested

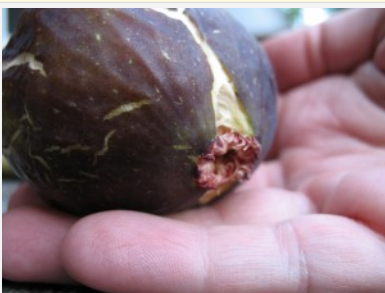


Ripe Marseilles fig, split to show coloration

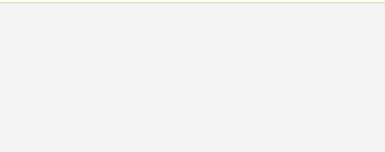
And now the Melanzana! Picked yesterday evening, while it was still warm from the sun.

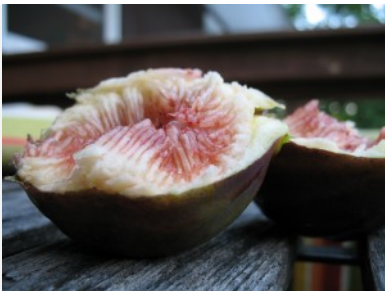


Ripening Melanzana figs



This particular Melanzana fig is huge!





Melanzana fig, split to show coloration

Well, we hope you enjoyed the photos!

Comments Off

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Some new fig pictures for 2010

Filed under: [photos](#) — Tags: [figs](#), [marseilles](#), [Melanzana](#), [ripe figs](#) — IFT @ 8:32 am *June 8, 2010*

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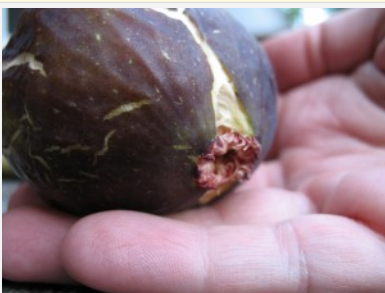


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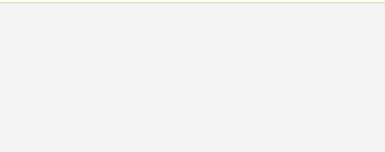
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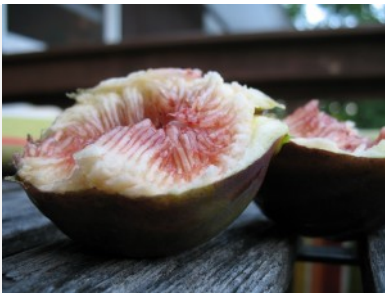


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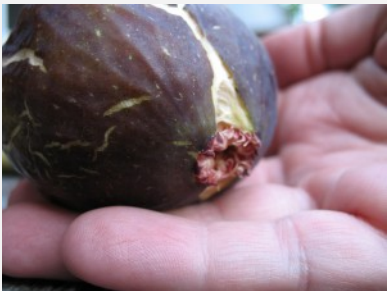


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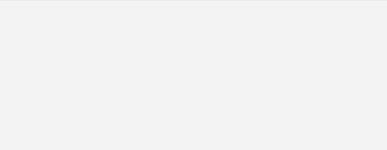
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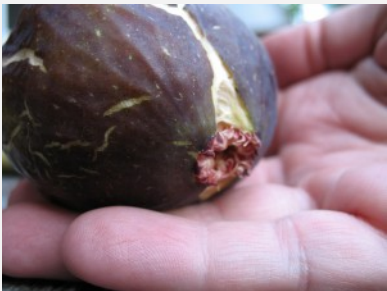


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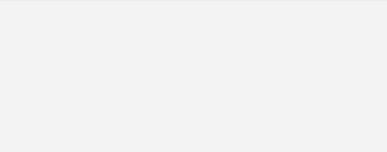
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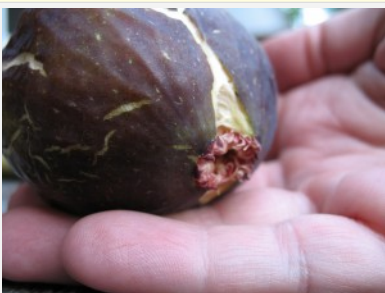


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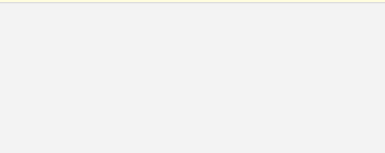
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Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — Tags: [happy mother's day](#) — IFT @ 5:24 pm *May 9, 2010*

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Comments Off

May update

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — IFT @ 5:27 pm *May 2, 2010*

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It's May, and we're selling trees very quickly this year, so please call us to check our stock, if you're interested in a particular variety. We know it's a long trip for many of you, and want to make your visit as smooth as possible. Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the reader poll: we're going to be compiling information & pictures for a little while, and will be publishing our article on fig tree varieties very soon. If you're interested in guiding the article itself, we opened another poll, to help us focus on the content you want to read about most. (Our hunch is that people want to know most what each fig tastes like & which trees have the most figs, but we'll let you tell us.)

Thanks!

Comments Off

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Update for 2010 Selling Season

Filed under: [From AI](#) — IFT @ 2:04 pm *April 21, 2010*

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Gearing up for the season & Happy Easter

Filed under: [From AI](#) — IFT @ 12:56 pm **April 4, 2010**



Small Grouping: Fig Trees For Sale

To all our friends who celebrate Easter, we wish you a Happy Easter. And a Happy Passover, to all of our friends celebrating Passover. We hope you're having a wonderful weekend, either way. Here, it's well into the 70's, with lots of sun. We've got tons of work to do to get ready for the selling season, but we're just so happy that the rain has finally stopped that we really don't care.

While the trees are just starting to be brought out from their winter home, we're very happy to take your calls & email about fig trees. The best time for calling is 9AM to 7PM EST, 7 days a week, and you can email us anytime: we try to respond to all emails in a couple of days, but always within a week. Just click on the "Contact" link in the menu to send us an email.

Comments Off

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Selling Fig Trees at Farmers Markets

Filed under: [From Al](#) — Tags: [farmers market](#), [flemington nj](#), [trees for sale](#) — FIG @ 12:31 pm *July 18, 2008*

We are going to be at the Flemington Farmers Market this coming Sunday, July 20th, 2008, from 9 until Noon. We are looking forward to meeting you there.

Comments Off

Email Question: keeping ants away from figs

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 9:21 am *July 20, 2006*

Since it's fruiting season, this email from our files is especially relevant. Anyone who's ever seen ants happily crawling in and out of their ripening fruit knows how irritating this is.

Albert writes:

Dear Italian fig trees,

Ants are attacking my figs as they ripen. What can I do? Any help will be appreciated.

Albert

Dear Albert,

Try "Tree Tanglefoot" to trap the ants before they get to the figs.

Al

(* "Tree Tanglefoot" is an organic sticky compound of castor oil and natural waxes, that you apply as a barrier ring to keep climbing pests from getting access. It's widely available.)

[Comments \(0\)](#)

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Email Question: moving a planted fig tree

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 2:20 pm *July 16, 2006*

A recent email question, sent in by Lisa

I WANTED TO KNOW WHEN IS THE BEST PLACE TO MOVE & PLANT A FIG TREE, FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, & THE RIGHT WAY TO DO IT. THANK YOU

LISA

Hi Lisa:

The only good time to move a fig tree is when it is dormant. The best time for you would be very early in the spring, when the tree is still in the dormant stage. Dig a hole in advance in the spot you have chosen to move it to, try to get as much of the roots as possible, and plant the tree as soon as possible.

All this is assuming that the tree is relatively small. A large tree can only be safely moved by a professional.

Al

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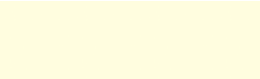
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From the Garden Plate (April-May 2007)

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — FIG @ 1:38 pm *April 7, 2007*

[Garden Plate](#)

A local foodie magazine recently contacted us for photos & information on growing fig trees in our area, and the issue was just recently published...we're sharing a little bit of it here.

You can contact the Garden Plate, or go to their website, if you're looking to get an issue.



[Garden Plate magazine](#)

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May update

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — IFT @ 5:27 pm *May 2, 2010*

Hello, customers & friends of Italian fig trees everywhere!

It's May, and we're selling trees very quickly this year, so please call us to check our stock, if you're interested in a particular variety. We know it's a long trip for many of you, and want to make your visit as smooth as possible. Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the reader poll: we're going to be compiling information & pictures for a little while, and will be publishing our article on fig tree varieties very soon. If you're interested in guiding the article itself, we opened another poll, to help us focus on the content you want to read about most. (Our hunch is that people want to know most what each fig tastes like & which trees have the most figs, but we'll let you tell us.)

Thanks!

Comments Off

No Comments

No comments yet.

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The italianfigtrees.com Blog

Fig Tree Varieties
Spring/Summer 2010


▫ Brown Turkey
▫ Celeste



- [Marseilles](#)
- [Verte](#)
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Poll Update #2

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [reader poll](#) — IFT @ 12:03 pm **April 18, 2010**

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Thanks to everyone who's responded so far: you help make this a better site for all the site visitors, and we appreciate it!

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Update on the italianfigtrees.com reader poll

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [content](#), [poll](#) — IFT @ 5:18 pm **April 9, 2010**

We've had a small amount of activity on the site's poll so far, and as of right now, information about the different varieties is in the lead! When we get a good number of responses, we'll be providing articles which discuss the topic with the most interest. So, if you feel strongly about it, please feel free to go ahead and [vote](#).

Thanks!

Comments Off

Gearing up for the season & Happy Easter

Filed under: [From AI](#) — IFT @ 12:56 pm **April 4, 2010**

The italianfigtrees.com Blog



Small Grouping: Fig Trees For Sale

To all our friends who celebrate Easter, we wish you a Happy Easter. And a Happy Passover, to all of our friends celebrating Passover. We hope you're having a wonderful weekend, either way. Here, it's well into the 70's, with lots of sun. We've got tons of work to do to get ready for the selling season, but we're just so happy that the rain has finally stopped that we really don't care.

While the trees are just starting to be brought out from their winter home, we're very happy to take your calls & email about fig trees. The best time for calling is 9AM to 7PM EST, 7 days a week, and you can email us anytime: we try to respond to all emails in a couple of days, but always within a week. Just click on the "Contact" link in the menu to send us an email.

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Selling Fig Trees at Farmers Markets

Filed under: [From AL](#) — Tags: [farmers market](#), [flemington nj](#), [trees for sale](#) — FIG @ 12:31 pm *July 18, 2008*

We are going to be at the Flemington Farmers Market this coming Sunday, July 20th, 2008, from 9 until Noon. We are looking forward to meeting you there.

Comments Off

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Email Question: keeping ants away from figs

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From AI](#) — FIG @ 9:21 am *July 20, 2006*

Since it's fruiting season, this email from our files is especially relevant. Anyone who's ever seen ants happily crawling in and out of their ripening fruit knows how irritating this is.

Albert writes:

Dear Italian fig trees,

Ants are attacking my figs as they ripen. What can I do? Any help will be appreciated.

Albert

Dear Albert,

Try "Tree Tanglefoot" to trap the ants before they get to the figs.

AI

(* "Tree Tanglefoot" is an organic sticky compound of castor oil and natural waxes, that you apply as a barrier ring to keep climbing pests from getting access. It's widely available.)

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Wrapping Trees for Winter

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — Tags: [fig tree protection](#), [winter](#), [winter care](#), [wrapping](#) — FIG @ 10:05 am *September 20, 2009*

With winter just around the corner, it seemed like a good time to bring back a look at how we've wrapped fig trees for winter. (If you still have questions, please send Al an email, or give us a call.)

Step 1: Tree cut back, ready for wrapping. NOTE: the support poles in the corners of the bed remain year-round, so that the roots weren't damaged by adding supports later.



Step 1 for wrapping trees for winter.

Step 2: We cover that with a layer of old foam insulation, topped with an old flannel bedsheet.

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Wrapping tree for winter, step 2

Step 3: Wooden top laid over, to prevent accumulation of moisture or sagging.



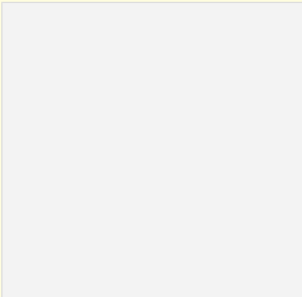
Wrapping tree, step 3

Step 4: Old carpeting wrapped around the tree's various layers, to provide extra protection. Old carpeting is great stuff.



Wrapping tree, step 4

Step 5: Plastic is the final layer, to keep moisture out. This should only be done on top of the insulation layer, so moisture isn't trapped inside the tree wrapper.





Step 5: finishing with a plastic cover

Questions? Give us a call. Happy Autumn!

Comments Off

Email Question: keeping ants away from figs

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 9:21 am *July 20, 2006*

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Email Question: moving a planted fig tree

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 2:20 pm *July 16, 2006*

A recent email question, sent in by Lisa

I WANTED TO KNOW WHEN IS THE BEST PLACE TO MOVE & PLANT A FIG TREE, FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, & THE RIGHT WAY TO DO IT. THANK YOU

LISA

Hi Lisa:

The only good time to move a fig tree is when it is dormant. The best time for you would be very early in the spring, when the tree is still in the dormant stage. Dig a hole in advance in the spot you have chosen to move it to, try to get as much of the roots as possible, and plant the tree as soon as possible.

All this is assuming that the tree is relatively small. A large tree can only be safely moved by a professional.

Al

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Farmer's Market

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 2:14 pm *July 16, 2006*

Dad asked me to post that he's out of transportable stock for the Farmers' Market, so he's not going to be going there for the remainder of the season. This also means he'll be here on Saturday mornings, if you need to ask him questions or get a tree.

Comments Off

High Bridge Open Air Market, Saturdays 8:30 – 12:30

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 9:27 am *June 17, 2006*

From June 24th to September 2nd, I'll be at the Open Air Market in High Bridge with trees for sale. If you have any questions about what kind of trees we'll be selling, just give us a call: (908) 832-7770.

If you need more information about the market, here's their website: http://www.highbridge.org/events.html#High_Bridge_Open_Air_Market

Note to all: I've moved comments to the FAQs section, since they didn't have anything to do with this topic. Please post your comment to the appropriate section (FAQs, winter care, etc.), so that the conversation is easy for all to follow. And as always, if you are trying to email Al, don't leave your question as a comment. Send an email to: al@italianfigtrees.com. Thanks!

Comments Off

Interesting article on NPR website

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 7:39 pm *June 2, 2006*

Our daughter heard an NPR story about the possible earliest known cultivated crops: figs! They were found in the ruins of an 11,400-year-old house, if you can imagine that. So, all you fig growers

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out there: we're in good company.
Read the article on NPR's website here:
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5446137>

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From the Garden Plate (April-May 2007)

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — FIG @ 1:38 pm *April 7, 2007*

Garden Plate

A local foodie magazine recently contacted us for photos & information on growing fig trees in our area, and the issue was just recently published...we're sharing a little bit of it here.

You can contact the Garden Plate, or go to their website, if you're looking to get an issue.



[Garden Plate magazine](#)

Comments Off

No Comments

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Thanks!

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Quick reader poll

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [content](#), [poll](#), [reader preference](#) — IFT @ 4:07 pm *March 24, 2010*

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We'd like to know what you, our readers, would like to see, in terms of additional content on the site. If you're interested, please feel free to take our poll about possible upcoming articles & tips. Thanks!

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Poll Update #2

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [reader poll](#) — IFT @ 12:03 pm *April 18, 2010*

Well, the reader poll will close on the 24th, and as of today, varieties is still leading as the preferred category. When the first poll closes, we'll be posting a second poll to find out what our readers care most about, regarding fig varieties (i.e., hardness, taste, appearance, harvest time, etc.), so please feel free to respond to that poll next week.

Of course, there's still a chance that another category may emerge as the winner, but the results so far match up pretty closely with the questions we get from customers we interact with, so this wasn't a total surprise to us.

Thanks to everyone who's responded so far: you help make this a better site for all the site visitors, and we appreciate it!

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Update on the italianfigtrees.com reader poll

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [content](#), [poll](#) — IFT @ 5:18 pm *April 9, 2010*

We've had a small amount of activity on the site's poll so far, and as of right now, information about the different varieties is in the lead! When we get a good number of responses, we'll be providing articles which discuss the topic with the most interest. So, if you feel strongly about it, please feel free to go ahead and [vote](#).

Thanks!

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Thanks!

Comments Off

Quick reader poll

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [content](#), [poll](#), [reader preference](#) — IFT @ 4:07 pm *March 24, 2010*

We'd like to know what you, our readers, would like to see, in terms of additional content on the site. If you're interested, please feel free to take our poll about possible upcoming articles & tips. Thanks!

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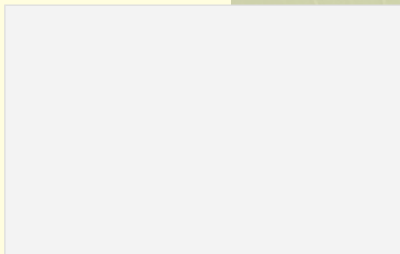
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Wrapping Trees for Winter

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — Tags: [fig tree protection](#), [winter](#), [winter care](#), [wrapping](#) — FIG @ 10:05 am *September 20, 2009*

With winter just around the corner, it seemed like a good time to bring back a look at how we've wrapped fig trees for winter. (If you still have questions, please send Al an email, or give us a call.)

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Step 1 for wrapping trees for winter.

Step 2: We cover that with a layer of old foam insulation, topped with an old flannel bedsheet.



Wrapping tree for winter, step 2

Step 3: Wooden top laid over, to prevent accumulation of moisture or sagging.



Wrapping tree, step 3

Step 4: Old carpeting wrapped around the tree's various layers, to provide extra protection. Old carpeting is great stuff.



Wrapping tree, step 4

Step 5: Plastic is the final layer, to keep moisture out. This should only be done on top of the insulation layer, so moisture isn't trapped inside the tree wrapper.



Step 5: finishing with a plastic cover

Questions? Give us a call. Happy Autumn!

Comments Off

Selling Fig Trees at Farmers Markets

Filed under: [From AI](#) — Tags: [farmers market](#), [flemington nj](#), [trees for sale](#) — FIG @ 12:31 pm *July 18, 2008*

We are going to be at the Flemington Farmers Market this coming Sunday, July 20th, 2008, from 9 until Noon. We are looking forward to meeting you there.

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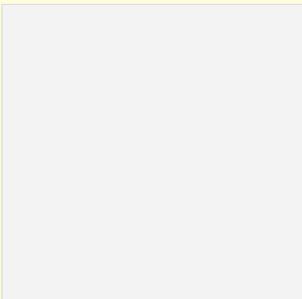
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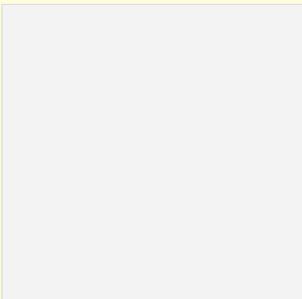
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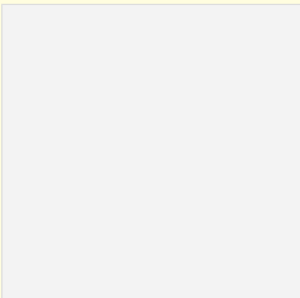
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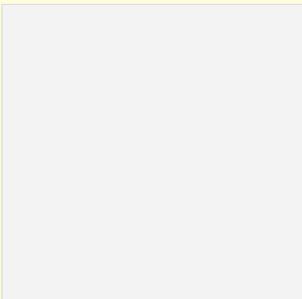
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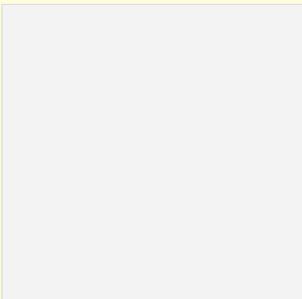
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Tree-wrapping photos moved to new section

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [Site Announcements](#) — FIG @ 1:09 pm *May 21, 2006*

It's the last thing anyone's in the mood for, discussing pre-winter care, but we've improved the descriptions (slightly!) and moved the whole discussion to its own category, called (appropriately): "[Fig Tree Care](#)".

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Winter protection 1

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm



Winter protection 1

Step 1

Tree cut back, ready for wrapping. Support poles in the corners of the bed remain year-round, so that the roots aren't damaged by adding supports later.

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Winter protection 2

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm



Winter protection 2

Step 2
A layer of old foam insulation, topped with an old flannel bedsheet.

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Farmer's Market

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 2:14 pm *July 16, 2006*

Dad asked me to post that he's out of transportable stock for the Farmers' Market, so he's not going to be going there for the remainder of the season. This also means he'll be here on Saturday mornings, if you need to ask him questions or get a tree.

Comments Off

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High Bridge Open Air Market, Saturdays 8:30 – 12:30

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 9:27 am *June 17, 2006*

From June 24th to September 2nd, I'll be at the Open Air Market in High Bridge with trees for sale. If you have any questions about what kind of trees we'll be selling, just give us a call: (908) 832-7770.

If you need more information about the market, here's their website: http://www.highbridge.org/events.html#High_Bridge_Open_Air_Market

Note to all: I've moved comments to the FAQs section, since they didn't have anything to do with this topic. Please post your comment to the appropriate section (FAQs, winter care, etc.), so that the conversation is easy for all to follow. And as always, if you are trying to email AI, don't leave your question as a comment. Send an email to: ai@italianfigtrees.com. Thanks!

Comments Off

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Fig Tree Varieties Spring/Summer 2010


- ▷ Brown Turkey
- ▷ Celeste
- ▷ Marseilles



- [Verte](#)
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Interesting article on NPR website

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 7:39 pm *June 2, 2006*

Our daughter heard an NPR story about the possible earliest known cultivated crops: figs! They were found in the ruins of an 11,400-year-old house, if you can imagine that. So, all you fig growers out there: we're in good company. Read the article on NPR's website here:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5446137>

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Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 10:45 am *March 25, 2006*

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We will be at the High Bridge Farmer's Market when it opens later this spring.

Comments Off

My e-mail address

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 8:59 pm *July 11, 2005*

Here is my e-mail address if you want to contact me: al@italianfigtrees.com. For your convenience, just go to "Contact" and click.

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Marseilles

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 8:27 pm *June 13, 2005*

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Marseilles

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Quick reader poll

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — Tags: [content](#), [poll](#), [reader preference](#) — IFT @ 4:07 pm *March 24, 2010*

We'd like to know what you, our readers, would like to see, in terms of additional content on the site. If you're interested, please feel free to take our poll about possible upcoming articles & tips. Thanks!

Comments Off

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New Site Feature

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — FIG @ 8:18 pm *May 31, 2006*

We've imported our Flickr.com photo albums so you can [see our photos](#) without leaving...the added bonus for us is that we can see and display your comments from Flickr, right here, so *WE* don't have to leave the site!

By the way, feel free to post your comments about the photos on Flickr...we enjoy reading them. We will answer all your questions about fig trees, as soon as possible, but we don't always see the questions sent via a comment. The best way to ask a question is to click "Contact" above, and send us your question that way.

Thanks!

Comments Off

Tree-wrapping photos moved to new section

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [Site Announcements](#) — FIG @ 1:09 pm *May 21, 2006*

It's the last thing anyone's in the mood for, discussing pre-winter care, but we've improved the descriptions (slightly) and moved the whole discussion to its own category, called (appropriately): "[Fig Tree Care](#)".

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From the Garden Plate (April-May 2007)

Filed under: [Uncategorized](#) — FIG @ 1:38 pm *April 7, 2007*

Garden Plate

A local foodie magazine recently contacted us for photos & information on growing fig trees in our area, and the issue was just recently published...we're sharing a little bit of it here.

You can contact the Garden Plate, or go to their website, if you're looking to get an issue.



[Garden Plate magazine](#)

Comments Off

[Email Question: keeping ants away from figs](#)

The italianfigtrees.com Blog

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 9:21 am *July 20, 2006*

Since it's fruiting season, this email from our files is especially relevant. Anyone who's ever seen ants happily crawling in and out of their ripening fruit knows how irritating this is.

Albert writes:

Dear Italian fig trees,

Ants are attacking my figs as they ripen. What can I do? Any help will be appreciated.

Albert

Dear Albert,

Try "Tree Tanglefoot" to trap the ants before they get to the figs.

Al

(* "Tree Tanglefoot" is an organic sticky compound of castor oil and natural waxes, that you apply as a barrier ring to keep climbing pests from getting access. It's widely available.)

[Comments \(0\)](#)

Email Question: moving a planted fig tree

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [From Al](#) — FIG @ 2:20 pm *July 16, 2006*

A recent email question, sent in by Lisa

I WANTED TO KNOW WHEN IS THE BEST PLACE TO MOVE & PLANT A FIG TREE, FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, & THE RIGHT WAY TO DO IT. THANK YOU

LISA

Hi Lisa:

The only good time to move a fig tree is when it is dormant. The best time for you would be very early in the spring, when the tree is still in the dormant stage. Dig a hole in advance in the spot you have chosen to move it to, try to get as much of the roots as possible, and plant the tree as soon as possible.

All this is assuming that the tree is relatively small. A large tree can only be safely moved by a professional.

Al

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Winter protection 1

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter protection 1

Step 1

Tree cut back, ready for wrapping. Support poles in the corners of the bed remain year-round, so that the roots aren't damaged by adding supports later.

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Winter protection 2

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter protection 2

Step 2
A layer of old foam insulation, topped with an old flannel bedsheet.

Comments Off

No Comments

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Winter protection 3

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter protection 3

Step 3

Wooden top laid over, to prevent accumulation of moisture or sagging.

Comments Off

Winter protection 4

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm

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Winter protection 4

Step 4

Old carpeting wrapped around the tree's various layers, to provide extra protection.

Comments Off

Winter protection 5

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 12:59 pm



Winter protection 5

Step 5 of 5 .you're done!

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Melanzana

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 8:24 pm *June 13, 2005*

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Melanzana

We're usually competing with the birds for figs this ripe; squirrels and chipmunks like to steal them, too, and they're wasteful...usually they only eat a tiny bit and drop the rest of the fig.

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Farmer's Market

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 2:14 pm *July 16, 2006*

Dad asked me to post that he's out of transportable stock for the Farmers' Market, so he's not going to be going there for the remainder of the season. This also means he'll be here on Saturday mornings, if you need to ask him questions or get a tree.

Comments Off

Cucidati?

Filed under: [A Fig Miscellany Recipes](#) — FIG @ 2:04 pm

We got an email from Amy, who is looking for a recipe for *cuccidadas*, (or possibly *cuchidahti*, or *cuddureddi*, or even *cucidati* the spelling varies a lot.)

Hi,

Since you know a lot about Italian fig trees and such, I was curious if you knew of an Italian fig cookie recipe? Or if not, at the very least, would you happen to know where I can find good fresh figs in New York City?

Amy (NYC)

Hi Amy,

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Tina

The italianfigtrees.com Blog

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High Bridge Open Air Market, Saturdays 8:30 – 12:30

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 9:27 am *June 17, 2006*

From June 24th to September 2nd, I'll be at the Open Air Market in High Bridge with trees for sale. If you have any questions about what kind of trees we'll be selling, just give us a call: (908) 832-7770.

If you need more information about the market, here's their website: http://www.highbridge.org/events.html#High_Bridge_Open_Air_Market

Note to all: I've moved comments to the FAQs section, since they didn't have anything to do with this topic. Please post your comment to the appropriate section (FAQs, winter care, etc.), so that the conversation is easy for all to follow. And as always, if you are trying to email AI, don't leave your question as a comment. Send an email to: ai@italianfigtrees.com. Thanks!

Comments Off

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- [Brown Turkey](#)
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- [Marseilles](#)
- [Verte](#)
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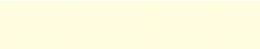
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Winter protection 3

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter protection 3

Step 3

Wooden top laid over, to prevent accumulation of moisture or sagging.

Comments Off

No Comments

No comments yet.

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Winter protection 4

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter_protection_4

Step 4

Old carpeting wrapped around the tree's various layers, to provide extra protection.

Comments Off

No Comments

No comments yet.

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Winter protection 5

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 12:59 pm May 21, 2006



Winter protection 5

Step 5 of 5...you're done!

Comments Off

No Comments

No comments yet.

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Melanzana

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 8:24 pm *June 13, 2005*

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Melanzana

We're usually competing with the birds for figs this ripe; squirrels and chipmunks like to steal them, too, and they're wasteful...usually they only eat a tiny bit and drop the rest of the fig.

Comments Off

No Comments

No comments yet.

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Cucidati?

Filed under: [A Fig Miscellany](#) Recipes — FIG @ 2:04 pm *July 16, 2006*

We got an email from Amy, who is looking for a recipe for *cuccidadas*, (or possibly *cuchidahti*, or *cuddureda*, or even *cucidati* the spelling varies a lot)

Hi,

Since you know a lot about Italian fig trees and such, I was curious if you knew of an Italian fig cookie recipe? Or if not, at the very least, would you happen to know where I can find good fresh figs in New York City?

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[Comments \(0\)](#)

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[Comments \(0\)](#)

Recommended recipes

Filed under: [A Fig Miscellany](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm *June 6, 2006*

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Figs are often a bit bland and sweet, when made into jam. To counteract this, the use of lemon, ginger, sesame seeds, strawberries, or other acid or bright/strong notes round out the flavor.

About the recipes: If you have your own fig recipes (dried or fresh) and want to share them on italianfigtrees.com, please email my dad, [Al](#). If we get enough, we may start a recipe section for the site.

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From [The Land of Figs and Olives](#) by Habeeb Salloum and James Peters

(Note: this is not a "fig cookbook", but a Middle Eastern one that has a good fig jam recipe.)

Fig Jam, p.219

Recipe includes pine nuts, fennel seeds, cloves, and sesame seeds...you can leave out the fennel seeds, but try to make it with the pine nuts, if you have them.

[Comments \(0\)](#)



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Interesting article on NPR website

Filed under: [From AI](#) — FIG @ 7:39 pm *June 2, 2006*

Our daughter heard an NPR story about the possible earliest known cultivated crops: figs! They were found in the ruins of an 11,400-year-old house, if you can imagine that. So, all you fig growers out there: we're in good company.

Read the article on NPR's website here:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5446137>

[Comments \(0\)](#)

New Site Feature

Filed under: [Site Announcements](#) — FIG @ 8:18 pm *May 31, 2006*

We've imported our Flickr.com photo albums so you can [see our photos](#) without leaving...the added bonus for us is that we can see and display your comments from Flickr, right here, so *WE* don't have to leave the site!

By the way, feel free to post your comments about the photos on Flickr...we enjoy reading them. We will answer all your questions about fig trees, as soon as possible, but we don't always see the questions sent via a comment. The best way to ask a question is to click "Contact" above, and send us your question that way.

Thanks!

Comments Off

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Tree-wrapping photos moved to new section

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#), [Site Announcements](#) — FIG @ 1:09 pm *May 21, 2006*

It's the last thing anyone's in the mood for, discussing pre-winter care, but we've improved the descriptions (slightly!) and moved the whole discussion to its own category, called (appropriately): "[Fig Tree Care](#)".

Comments Off

Winter protection 1

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm



Winter protection 1

Step 1

Tree cut back, ready for wrapping. Support poles in the corners of the bed remain year-round, so that the roots aren't damaged by adding supports later.

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Winter protection 2

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:01 pm



Winter protection 2

Step 2
A layer of old foam insulation, topped with an old flannel bedsheet.

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Winter protection 3

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm *May 21, 2006*



Winter protection 3

Step 3

Wooden top laid over, to prevent accumulation of moisture or sagging.

Comments Off

Winter protection 4

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 1:00 pm

The italianfigtrees.com Blog



Winter protection 4

Step 4

Old carpeting wrapped around the tree's various layers, to provide extra protection.

Comments Off

Winter protection 5

Filed under: [Fig Tree Care](#) — FIG @ 12:59 pm



Winter protection 5

Step 5 of 5 .you're done!

Comments Off

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We are open for business

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 10:45 am *March 25, 2006*

The 2006 season is officially open now!

We will be at the High Bridge Farmer's Market when it opens later this spring.

Comments Off

My e-mail address

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 8:59 pm *July 11, 2005*

Here is my e-mail address if you want to contact me: al@italianfigtrees.com. For your convenience, just go to "Contact" and click.

Comments Off

Marseilles

Filed under: [From Al](#) — FIG @ 8:27 pm *June 13, 2005*

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Marseilles

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Melanzana

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Melanzana

We're usually competing with the birds for figs this ripe; squirrels and chipmunks like to steal them, too, and they're wasteful...usually they only eat a tiny bit and drop the rest of the fig.

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