

KIWIFRUIT CULTIVARS

The most common Kiwifruit species grown commercially is *Actinidia deliciosa* cultivar Hayward. Consumers are very familiar with this brown “fuzzy” fruit. However, this species of kiwifruit is not extremely hardy and may suffer cold injury in some years in the Pacific Northwest.

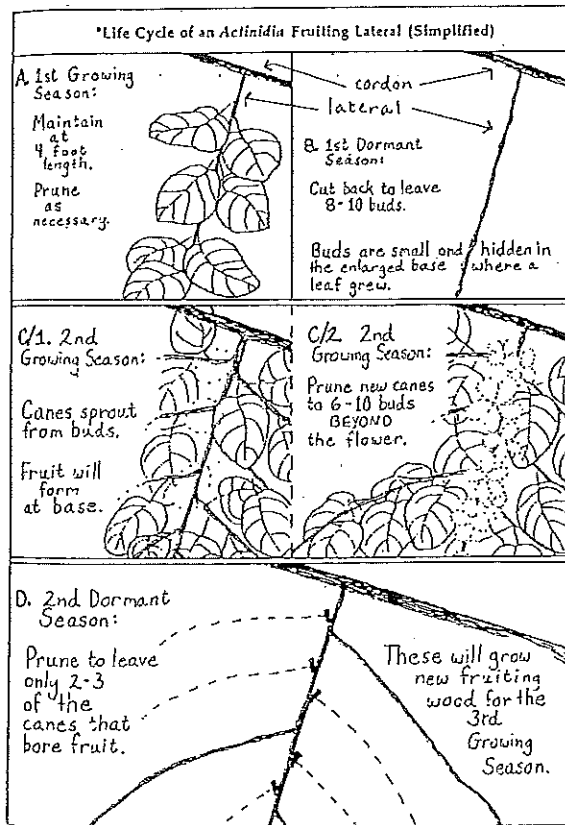
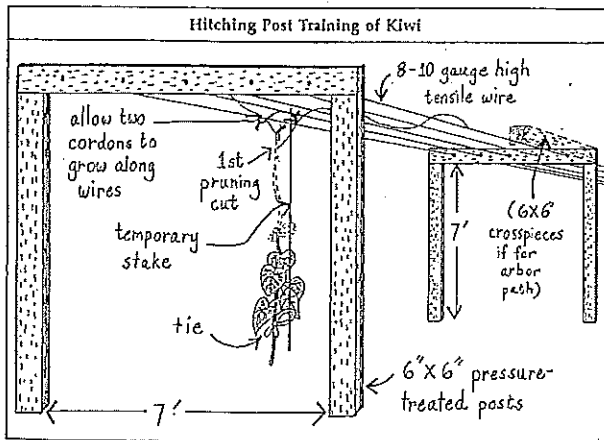
There are other, more hardy, kiwifruit species available, particularly *A. arguta* called the “hardy kiwi”, *A. kolomikta* or “Arctic Beauty”, and *A. polygama* or “Silver Vine”. The first species, *A. arguta*, shows promise for commercial production in the USA.

Although some people claim they eat the skin of fuzzy kiwi, most people peel these fruit. However, the hardy Kolomikta, and Silver Vine kiwifruit have very edible skin.

The kiwifruit is a dioecious plant – it has separate male and female plants (with the exception of a few self-fertile cultivars – so planting of male vines is essential for pollination and crop production. In general, plant the same species of male and female vine, one male is required for every 6 to 10 females. Self-fertile cultivars require no pollinator (no male required).

Yield per plant varies with species and cultivar. ‘Hayward’ (*A. deliciosa*) yields from 25 to 200 lbs/plant, whereas *A. arguta* yields from 50 to 100 lbs/plant.

Ripening dates, fruit weights, and plant performance information listed below are approximate. They are based on limited test results from a cultivar planting at North Willamette Research & Extension Center (NWREC), Aurora, Oregon. Performance may vary with location.



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