HOW TO PLANT A FRUIT TREE

1. Keep young plants in the shade and well watered until ready to plant.
2. You will need:
   - digging tools
   - mulch (you can make mulch with old dry leaves or grass, even old, shredded newspaper)
   - sticks, 3-4 feet tall
   - water
3. Choose a location where your tree can grow to full size (30 ft from other trees). Clear the site of bushes, unwanted trees and rubble.
4. Dig a hole at least 24 inches in diameter and 24 inches deep. Place top half of the excavated soil (A) on the left of your hole and place the other half of the excavated soil (B) on the right.
5. Mix organic manure/compost and soil “A” in the bottom of the hole and mix with water.
6. Remove the plant from the container. Try to keep the roots and soil together. Spread out some of the roots so they grow away from the tree.
7. Place the young plant in the hole. Plant at the same depth as the tree is in the container. Not too deep!
8. Fill around the plant with soil from soil mound “B”. Place soil around the roots but not too tightly. Roots need air and water to help the young plant grow.
9. Create a mound in a ring all around the hole to hold water around the tree. This is most important if the land is sloping. Place mulch around the tree but not touching the tree. Mulch keeps moisture around the root area.
10. Make a pyramid of sticks around the tree 3 or 4 feet tall. This will help to protect the young tree from hot sun, and children playing in the area will know to avoid the tree. If possible, plant some red peas or kidney beans at the base of the teepee so the vines will grow up on the sticks to provide some shade from excessive sun. The beans will also add nutrients to the soil. Be careful not to let the vines grow so thick that no sunlight comes through. Remove the teepee when the tree gets taller.
11. Water with one gallon every 2 days for at least one month unless it rains. Then water once a week. If no rain, also continue to mulch with dry grass or leaves.
12. Do not fertilize the tree as this can burn the roots. Six weeks after planting add organic fertilizer.
13. Keep goats away!! Goats kill trees in a matter of minutes.

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