

# FINGER LIME (Microcitrus Australasica)

# **Origin and Conditions for Growing**

- Found in South East Queensland and northern parts of New South Wales on a wide range of soils
- Grafted finger limes begin fruiting around the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, however, large quantities of fruit aren't generally present until the 6<sup>th</sup> year
- Seedlings can take up to 15 years to produce fruit
- Responds well to regular water exposure and small trimming
- Harvest period Summer-Autumn

## **Characteristics**

- Small shrubby tree 3-10m in height depending on growing conditions
- Can be grown as a pot plant if required or planted into the ground
- Fruit is the shape of a small sausage and the skin has the texture of a lemon or lime
- Different species produce different colours of finger limes pink, green and yellow

#### **Edible Portion**

- Cut off a tip of the finger lime and squeeze out small citrus balls. They look similar to caviar
- The skin (outside) can be used as rind/zest and added to baked goods or salads etc.

## **Nutrition**

High in vitamin C, high water content and high potassium.

## **Uses – Traditional and Current**

Both traditionally and currently, the finger lime is eaten fresh and added as a fresh citrus to drinks and meals for flavouring.

# Where to Buy

- Often can be sourced by green grocers upon request
- Frozen from online suppliers
- Can purchase as a plant from nurseries



