

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Finger lime: a finely branched citrus shrub with an unusual fruit idea

A young finger lime initially appeals through its small leaves and fine branching. The elongated fruits, with flesh consisting of small juicy pearls, give the plant its name.



AI-created scene based on the original shop photograph. Size reference: 12 cm pot · around 20 cm total height. Decoration is not included; natural development may differ.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

Issue October 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

Citrus australasica · synonym Microcitrus australasica

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Botanical name	Citrus australasica · synonym Microcitrus australasica
Delivery size	12 cm pot · around 20 cm total height
Family	Rutaceae
Flower colour	White to pale pink for the species; no flowers on delivery promised
Fruit	Elongated finger limes with pearl-like flesh; variety and colour unnamed
Lifespan	Perennial citrus shrub protected during our winters
Planting time	Repot when needed in spring; move outdoors only frost-free
Height	Delivery state around 20 cm including pot; the species can grow considerably larger
Growth	Small foliage, fine branching; thorny shoots possible
Winter	Very bright and frost-free; do not keep the container permanently wet

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Summer position	Choose a bright to sunny sheltered place.	Acclimatise gradually to outdoor light.
Winter	Keep very bright and frost-free.	The young pot root ball is not a frost-hardy outdoor tree.
Water	Reliably supply the root ball during growth.	The small pot can dry quickly.
Drainage	Allow water to drain and empty the cover pot.	Avoid permanently wet roots.
Compost	Choose structurally stable free-draining citrus compost.	Moisture and air belong together.
Repotting	Give only a little more room in spring when roots fill the pot.	An oversized pot waterlogs more easily.
Nutrients	Use suitable citrus fertiliser according to the label.	Consider light and growth condition.
Shoots	Handle possible thorns carefully.	Do not unnecessarily shape the young shrub heavily.

Knowledge that grows

It begins as a fine green shrub

A young finger lime initially appeals through its small leaves and fine branching. The elongated fruits, with flesh consisting of small juicy pearls, give the plant its name. The specific original, however, shows a young green plant, not a heavily cropping fruit tree. We therefore show no invented harvest on the assortment plant. The colour of ripe fruits and their pearls depends on variety; no named selection is evidenced here. *Citrus australasica* and the shop name *Microcitrus australasica* refer to the same plant, not two different delivery plants.

Twenty centimetres is a beginning, not a tree limit

The offer states a 12 cm pot and around twenty centimetres total height. Small branches look appealing on a sheltered terrace. The species can later grow substantially larger; pot and cultivation influence its development. When unpacking, do not pull the crown out by thin shoots. Handle thorny parts carefully. Place the nursery pot in its cover pot so you can reach soil and drainage. Decoration in the scene is a design idea and says nothing about supplied fruits or accessories.

Summer light with a sheltered transition

A bright to sunny sheltered summer position suits container cultivation. Gradually acclimatise a plant from protected surroundings to direct sun and wind. Year-round planting in a German garden is not promised. Slight frost tolerance at an Australian natural site provides no reliable protection for a young pot root ball. Plan the winter position before autumn. A dark warm indoor corner is no more a complete citrus solution than an unprotected frosty balcony. Light, temperature and space belong together in the position decision.

The young root ball should not dry out in summer

Check the soil during growth and supply the small root ball reliably. Prefer rainwater and let excess drain freely. It must not stand inside closed cover pots. Beneath a roof, a rain shower may not reach the roots. In winter the surface may dry slightly before the next watering; cooler conditions and less light often reduce consumption. Assess leaf fall alongside root-ball moisture and position. Do not keep watering wet heavy soil simply because a leaf looks sad.

Container structure supports later growth

Structurally stable free-draining citrus compost is a suitable starting point. Give only slightly more pot space in spring when roots clearly fill the container. A very large pot around a small root ball easily stays wet too long. During suitable growth, feed according to an appropriate citrus fertiliser label and account for pre-feeding. Do not constantly prune healthy fine branches into an artificial standard. Individual interfering or dead shoots can be removed selectively. Check leaves and bases for unusual deposits; extra nutrients do not replace this short observation.

The fruit story needs patience

A young-plant offer does not promise harvesting next summer. Age, propagation method, cultivation and light influence entry into fruiting. Seedlings can take a very long time; a grafted origin is not claimed here. First document new branches in the plant book and later any flowers. Australia lies in the other hemisphere, so its harvest months are not transferred unchanged to a German calendar. Enjoying the fine plant begins well before its first finger lime.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



AI-created detail view based on the original shop photograph.
Enlarged crop; not a representation of delivery size.



Original shop photograph of the offered plant. 12 cm pot · around
20 cm total height.



Original shop photograph of the offered plant. 12 cm pot · around
20 cm total height.

Good to know

Why is it called caviar lime?

The pearl-like flesh of ripe finger limes resembles small caviar beads.

Does the young delivery plant already bear fruit?

The specific original shows a green young plant; fruits are not promised.

What colour are the fruits?

The unnamed variety permits no fixed fruit or flesh colour.

Can it overwinter in the garden?

Plan a very bright frost-free winter position for this young container plant.

Are Microcitrus and Citrus different plants?

Microcitrus australasica is a commonly used older name for the finger lime described here.

The matching offer

[View plant in the shop ↗](#)

Check the shop for the current price, availability and offer contents.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer