

# Apricot fruit farming

Apricots are a rich source of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants making them a perfect choice among health conscious consumers.

## Apricot production practices

**Site selection.** Choosing the right location is essential in apricot farming. Apricot trees thrive in well drained soils with good air circulation and full sun exposure. They are adaptable to a wide range of soils but prefers slightly acidic to neutral soils.

**Variety selection.** There are a variety of apricot varieties each with its own unique flavor, size and ripening time. The choice of variety selection depends on factors such as climate, local market preference and intended use.

**Planting.** Apricots can be propagated from seeds but most commercial farmers prefer propagating them from grafted trees for early fruiting and consistent fruit quality.

**Pruning.** Regular pruning is essential for shaping the tree, improving air circulation and controlling its size. This should be done during the dormant season to avoid stressing the tree.

**Fertilization and watering.** Apricot trees require adequate nutrition which can be got through proper fertilization. Regular watering is essential especially during the dry season.

**Harvesting.** Apricots are typically harvested when they reach their full ripeness and this is often indicated by a change in color and slight softening of the fruit.