

# HARDY BANANA TREES

The most winter-hardy banana for our area is the Musa Basjoo. Musa Basjoo can grow to nearly 20 feet tall and will add a tropical feel to any Kansas City landscape!

**Light.** Hardy bananas should be planted in full sun (at least 6 hours of direct sun) to obtain maximum height.

**Planting.** Dig a hole twice the size of the root ball. Backfill the hole with top soil and compost and place the plant at the same depth it was in the pot. Avoid planting your tree in a windy area as heavy wind will shred the leaves. Bananas will not do well in soggy soil. Good drainage is important!

**Fertilizer.** A fertilizer high in nitrogen like Chickity-Doo-Doo is recommended. Apply once a month through the growing season.

**Winter Care.** Proper winter care is vital to ensure the survival of your hardy banana. After the first frost the leaves will start to die down. At this point the trunk should be cut down to 2 feet above ground. Mulch the trunk completely and secure the pile with netting to keep harsh winter winds from blowing them away.



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