

STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 24, 2017

RE: **2438 Fogarty Avenue (permit application # T17-8438)**

FROM: Karen DeMaria, City of Key West Urban Forestry Manager

An application was received requesting the removal of **(1) Guava tree**. A site inspection was done on April 19, 2017 and documented the following:

Tree Species: Guava (*Psidium guajava*)







04/19/2017



Diameter: 8.9"

Location: 60% (close to concrete wall)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 60% (fair)

Total Average Value = 73%

Value x Diameter = 6.4 replacement caliper inches

Topics: [Horticultural Sciences](#) | [Guava](#) | [Fruit Crops \(MG, South Florida ed.\)](#) | [Fruit Crops \(MG, North and Central Florida ed.\)](#) | [Subtropical Fruit for the Home Landscape](#) | [Crane, Jonathan H](#) | [Balerdi, Carlos F](#)

Guava Growing in the Florida Home Landscape¹



Jonathan H. Crane and Carlos F. Balerdi²

Scientific name: *Psidium guajava* L.

Common names: guava, guajava, guayaba, jambu biji (Malay), bayabas (Philippino), trapaek sruk (Cambodian), farang, ma-kuai and ma-man (Thai), and oi (Vietnamese)

Family: Myrtaceae

Related species: Cattley (Strawberry) guava (*P. cattleianum*), Costa Rican Guava (*P. freidlichiana*), Brazilian guava (*P. guineense*), feijoa (*Feijoa sellowiana*), jambolan (*Syzygium jambolanum*), Malay apple (*S. malaccense*), Java apple (wax jambu; *S. samarangense*), water apple (*S. aqueum*), rose apple (*S. jambos*), Surinam cherry (*Eugenia uniflora*), Grumichama (*E. brasiliensis*), pitomba (*E. luschnathiana*), and jaboticaba (*Myciaria cauliflora*). Some of these species may be listed as invasive. For more information see <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment.html>.

Origin: Guava is indigenous to the American tropics.

Distribution: Guava has become naturalized in tropical and subtropical regions throughout the world. In the US guava is grown commercially in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Florida.

Invasive status: Guava has been assessed by the UF/IFAS Invasive Plants Working Group as invasive and not recommended by UF/IFAS for planting in south Florida; guava may be planted in central Florida but should be managed to prevent escape. For more information see <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment.html>.

Description

Tree

Small, single or multi-trunked trees to 20 ft (6.1 m) in height with a broad, spreading or upright canopy. Trees may be single or multi-trunked. The bark of the trunk is attractive with a mottled greenish-brown to light brown color.

Leaves

Leaves are opposite, oblong, 3 to 7 inches (7.6–18 cm) in length, with serrated margins and prominent veins on the lower side. Leaves are finely pubescent on the lower side, especially when young.

Inflorescence (Flowers)

White, about 1 inch (2.54 cm) in diameter, borne singly or in small groups (cymes) in axils of leaves of recent growth. Self-pollination is possible but cross-pollination by insects results in higher yields.

Fruit

A berry with few to many small brown seeds. Fruit shape ranges from round, ovoid to pear-shaped. Fruit weight ranges from 1 ounce to 48 ounces (28 g–1.4 kg). The peel color ranges from green to yellow and flesh color may be white, yellow, pink, or red. Fruit peel thickness may be thin or thick and depends upon cultivar. There is a wide range in flavor and aroma, ranging from sweet to highly acid and strong and penetrating aroma to mild and pleasant.

Varieties

There are numerous varieties of guava from Latin America, India, Southeast Asia, Mexico, and the US (Florida, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico). There are two basic types grown in Florida, pink or red pulp types consumed when ripe and white pulp types consumed when non-ripe (green or crispy) (Table 1).

Pink type available include 'Homestead' (Ruby x Supreme), 'Barbi Pink', 'Blitch', 'Hong Kong Pink', and 'Patillo'. Green types include 'Crystal', 'Lotus', 'Supreme', and 'Webber'. Some less popular varieties may be hard to find in local nurseries.

Climate

Guava trees are well adapted to warm subtropical to tropical climatic conditions. Ideal temperatures for growth and production range from 73° to 82°F (23–28 g). Temperatures below 60°F or drought cause growth to slow or cease.

Cold stress: Young guava trees may be killed by temperatures of 27° to 28°F (-3° to -2°C). Mature trees may withstand short periods of 25° to 26°F (-4° to -3°C) without much damage. However, temperatures below this may damage or kill stems, limb, and the trunk. Fortunately, cultivars propagated by air-layering may sprout from the ground and regrow; coming into fruit production 2 to 3 years later.

Flood stress: Guava is considered moderately tolerant of short durations (7 to 14 days) of continuously wet or flooded soil conditions. However, prolonged flooding may lead to fruit and leaf drop, leaf chlorosis, stem dieback, and tree death. Trees are generally more tolerant of flooding during cool weather.

Drought stress: Guava trees are tolerant of prolonged drought and stop active vegetative growth during this time. Immature (soft) wood and leaves may wilt and drought during fruit set and development may decrease fruit set and size, respectively. Drought stress is sometimes used alone or in conjunction with other cultural practices (e.g., pruning) to induce off-season flowering and fruit production.

Wind stress: In general, guava trees are tolerant of windy conditions. Dry, hot windy weather during leaf flushing may result in distorted and damaged leaves. Guava trees maintained at 6 to 10 ft (1.8–3.0 m) in height usually remain standing after hurricane force winds. Guava trees growing in constantly windy areas may take on a slanted appearance due to more growth on the leeward side of the tree.

Salt stress: Guava trees are moderately tolerant to saline soils and water however growth and fruit production decrease. Symptoms of salinity stress include marginal and tip browning of leaves, leaf drop, stem dieback, small fruit size and fruit drop.

Propagation

Guava trees may be propagated by seed however they do not come true from seed and fruit production may not begin for 3 to 8 years. Commercially, cultivars are vegetatively propagated by air layering (marcottage), stem cuttings, grafting and budding. The best material for stem cutting propagation is recently matured terminal wood. Stem cuttings should be 6 to 8 inches long with 2 to 3 leaves. The cuttings should be placed in sterile media in a mist bed. Bottom heat (75° to 85°F/24° to 29°C) and/or dipping cuttings in rooting hormone are

beneficial. Veneer and cleft grafting and chip budding are more successful on young vigorous seedling rootstocks. Scion material should be taken from terminal stem growth which is still green and quadrangular.

Production (Crop Yields)

Guava trees generally begin fruit production 3 to 4 years after planting and yields range from 50 to 80 lbs (23–36 kg) or more per tree per year. In Florida, guava may produce two crops per year; the main crop during summer followed by another smaller crop during early spring. However, through simple pruning techniques fruit may be produced nearly year-round.

Spacing

Guava trees in the home landscape should be planted in full sun. Depending upon ultimate tree size, trees should be planted 15 to 25 ft (4.6–7.6 m) away from other trees and structures and power lines. Trees planted too close to other trees or structures may not grow normally or produce much fruit due to shading.

Soils

Guava trees are well adapted to a wide range of soil types including sands, loams, rock-based soils, and muck. A soil pH of 4.5 to 7 is ideal but plants do well in high pH soils (7–8.5) if supplied with chelated iron materials. Guava trees produced by air-layering or cuttings generally have a shallow root system with most roots within 12 to 18 inches (30–45 cm) of the soil surface.

Planting a Guava Tree

Properly planting a guava tree is one of the most important steps in successfully establishing and growing a strong, productive tree. The first step is to choose a healthy nursery tree. Commonly, nursery guava trees are grown in 3 gallon containers and trees stand 2 to 4 ft (0.6–1.2 m) from the soil media. Large trees in smaller containers should be avoided as the root system may be "root bound". This means all the available space in the container has been filled with roots to the point that the root system is compacted in the container. Root bound root systems may not grow properly once planted in the ground.

Inspect the tree for insect pests and diseases and inspect the trunk of the tree for wounds and constrictions. Select a healthy tree and water it regularly in preparation for planting in the ground.

Site Selection

In general, guava trees should be planted in full sun for best growth and fruit production. Select a part of the landscape away from other trees, buildings and structures, and power lines. Remember guava trees can grow to 20 ft (6.1 m) in height if not pruned to contain their size. Select the warmest area of the landscape that does not flood (or remain wet) after typical summer rainfall events.

Planting in Sandy Soil

Many areas in Florida have sandy soil. Remove a 3 to 10 ft (0.9–3.4 m) diameter ring of grass sod. Dig a hole 3 to 4 times the diameter and 3 times as deep as the container the guava tree has come in. Making a large hole loosens the soil adjacent to the new tree making it easy for the roots to expand into the adjacent soil. It is not necessary to apply fertilizer, topsoil, or compost to the hole. In fact, placing topsoil or compost in the hole first and then planting on top of it is not desirable. If you wish to add topsoil or compost to the native soil, mix it with the soil excavated from making the hole in no more than a 1:1 ratio.

Backfill the hole with some of the native soil removed to make the hole. Remove the tree from the container and place it in the hole so that the top of the soil media in the container is level with or slightly above the surrounding soil level. Fill soil in around the tree roots and tamp slightly to remove air pockets. Immediately water the soil around the tree and tree roots. Staking the tree with a wooden or bamboo stake is

Application



Removal- Palm - 8437
Removal- Canopy - 8438

Tree Permit Application

Date: April 5, 2017

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 2438 Fogarty Ave
Cross/Corner Street 7th Street
List Tree Name(s) and Quantity 1 small coconut tree and one Guyava Tree
Species Type(s) check all that apply (X) Palm () Flowering (X) Fruit () Shade () Unsure
Reason(s) for Application:

(X) REMOVE () Tree Health () Safety (X) Other/Explain below
() TRANSPLANT () New Location () Same Property () Other/Explain below
() HEAVY MAINTENANCE () Branch Removal () Crown Cleaning/Thinning () Crown Reduction
Additional Information and Explanation The trees were planted too close to the concrete fence by previous owners and will cause damage to the fence over time.

Property Owner Name Harry and Maria Russell
Property Owner eMail Address 2438 Fogarty Ave
Property Owner Mailing Address 2438 Fogarty Ave
Property Owner Mailing City Key West **State** FL **Zip** 33040
Property Owner Phone Number (305) 304 - 7088
Property Owner Signature Harry Russell Jr.

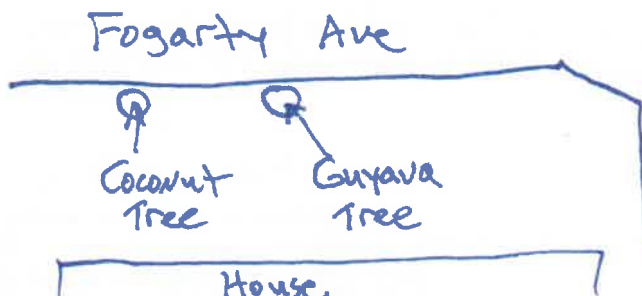
Representative Name DOT PALM
Representative eMail Address DOTPALM@Comcast.net
Representative Mailing Address 5200 Overseas Highway
Representative Mailing City SAME **State** FL **Zip** 33040
Representative Phone Number (305) 743 - 3090

NOTE: A Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany this application if someone other than the owner will be representing the owner at a Tree Commission meeting or picking up an issued Tree Permit.

Tree Representation Authorization form attached ()

<<<<< Sketch location of tree in this area including cross/corner Street >>>>>

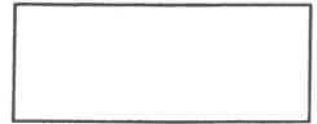
Please identify tree(s) with colored tape



7th
1'1"
1'3"
8.9" dbh

If this process requires blocking of a City right-of-way, a separate ROW Permit is required. Please contact 305-809-3740.

PA / ✓
\$ / ✓



Tree Representation Authorization

Date: 4-5-2017

Attendance at the Tree Commission meeting on the date when your request will be discussed is necessary in order to expedite the resolution of your application. This Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany the application if the property owner is unable to attend or will have someone else pick up the Tree Permit once issued.

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 2438 Fogarty Ave

Property Owner Name Harry and Maria Russell

Property Owner eMail Address Noles94@att.net

Property Owner Mailing Address 2438 Flagler Ave

Property Owner Mailing City Key West State FL Zip 33040

Property Owner Phone Number (305) 304 - 7088

Property Owner Signature Harry L. Russell Jr.

Representative Name DOT PALM

Representative eMail Address DOTPALM@Comcast.Net

Representative Mailing Address 5200 Overseas Highway

Representative Mailing City Marathon State FL Zip 33050

Representative Phone Number (305) 743 - 3090

I Harry Russell, hereby authorize the above listed agent(s) to represent me in the matter of obtaining a Tree Permit from the City of Key West for my property at the tree address above listed. You may contact me at the telephone listed above if there is any questions or need access to my property.

Property Owner Signature Harry L. Russell Jr.

The forgoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this 13th day April.

By (Print name of Affiant) Harry L. Russell Jr who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification and who did take an oath.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Sign Name: Patricia Nicholas

Print Name: Patricia Nicholas

My Commission Expires: April 25, 2018

Notary Public - State of Florida (seal)

