



How to Propagate from Seeds

Once you start looking for seeds and experimenting, you will be amazed when you succeed. Seeds provide biological diversity and possibly stronger plants, whereas cuttings produce clones of the plant. Finding seeds can be challenging at first. Seed size and look are different for every plant. Native Fiddlewood is used in this example.



1. This Fiddlewood is 6 years old and about 4' tall. Once established, Fiddlewoods need no additional watering.



2. The fruit is easily seen. Pick ripened fruit when it is black. Get them before the Catbirds devour the yummy treats!!



3. Soon after harvesting, easily clean seeds using gloves to prevent skin reactions. Roll fruit on paper towels until all pulp is removed. Pulp may contain chemicals inhibiting germination. Soak seeds in water overnight.



4. Clean surface of planting area and all tools with alcohol. Fill a 3- gallon pot halfway with new potting soil. Place up to 25 seeds on top. Sprinkle lightly with soil to just cover seeds.



5. Label with plant name and date. Place in shade and provide consistent, even moistness. Here are seedlings at 2 months.



6. Here they are at 4½ months. When about 2"- 3" tall you are ready to separate them into individual pots.



7. On a cleaned surface in the shade, gently slide the seedlings out. A trowel may help. Gently separate the seedlings. Choose the healthiest to pot if you don't use them all. Plant with new potting soil in a 1-gallon pot or smaller.



8. It is important to plant at the same level as it has grown from the seed...not too deep or too shallow. Label with plant name and date. If you try this, you will be amazed and so proud of your new babies!

For more detailed information:
<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg108>
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