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Eco-culture TREE GROWING KIT by Seracon Montreal, QC, Canada

The tree varieties have been selected for their superior environmental qualities such as carbon absorption, nitrogen fixing, soil restoration, shade cooling and also for the great tasting, high nutrient fruit, nuts and berries they provide for humans and animals. All of these selected trees are hardy, disease-resistant and **suited for growing in climate zones 2 through 5**. They will survive temperatures of -40° . The seeds are derived from trees that have been grown sustainably without harmful chemicals.

1) Heartnut – (Tree of Love) Express your heartfelt feelings for the "global village" by growing these trees of love. A beautiful, majestic tree that absorbs greenhouse gases more efficiently than other commonly planted trees. Inside each heart-shaped "locket" is a delicious, edible, sweet-tasting walnut rich in both protein and **healthy anti-oxidants**. The *juglans cordiformis*, a relative of the Japanese walnut, is the only living species on this planet that grows in the shape of a "HEART"!

2) Roselow. Small, beautiful tree with fragrant masses of pink "rose-like" flowers in spring. Thousands of clusters of cherry-red fruit adorn the bare branches all winter long providing much-needed food for birds and other wildlife. Humans will also love the tasty, red "plum-like" fruit high in **anti-oxidants** and other phyto-nutrients. Roselow resist disease, insects and drought. For a lifetime of enjoyment, plant these tiny Roselow seeds. They will grow and flourish for the next 100 years.

3) Seaberry. Seaberries are used to make **anti-aging tonics, ultra-healthy oils and an array of cosmetic and medicinal products**. A small, compact tree with beautiful silver foliage and bright orange berries. This tough little tree will grow anywhere...from salty ocean shorelines to dry, cold mountain ranges. Help to save the planet with this "greenest" of environmental trees...seaberries clean the air of the two worst greenhouse gases(carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide)!

4) Korean Pine. Tall, majestic, evergreen tree that produces huge cones containing thousands of little pine nuts adored for making **pesto** and other delicacies. North America's oldest Korean Pine tree is presently growing near Montreal, Quebec having been brought here by an early pioneer, Charles Gibbs, over 150 years ago. It has survived many climatic disasters but still flourishes at its original planting site. Plant your little pine nut seeds and save this venerable old tree from disappearing forever...and then in a few years you can enjoy your own homegrown pine nuts!

5) Dwarf Goji. This dwarf tree produces an abundance of bright red, plum-like berries that are reported to be the most nutrient-dense fruit on the planet. These sweet tasting, nutritious berries provide many vitamins in far greater amounts than most other common fruits. A handful (100g) of Goji berries can **contain more Vitamin C than several hundred oranges!!** Health-conscious consumers have made them the most expensive fruit sold in North America. Native to the Tibetan mountains, it handles our worst winter weather and will thrive in the poorest of soils.

6) Canadian Sugar Maple. The only maple tree used to produce the sweet sap that is boiled down to make **real** maple syrup. Also bears edible seeds that birds/squirrels and other wildlife love to eat. Fall frosts turn maple leaves into spectacular displays of reds, oranges and yellows. These breath-taking colours attract nature lovers from all over the world to our northern maple forests in the autumn. Plant your maple tree seeds and watch your own fall display of brilliant colours.

Your kit includes:
All natural seeds. Grow mix. Pot and saucer.

The attractive pot and saucer for starting your tree indoors are 100% biodegradable and compostable. They are fabricated from waste materials of rice, bamboo, and coconut that are typically burned releasing large amounts of carbon into the atmosphere. Converting this plant matter to useful products is an ideal way to sequester carbon that would otherwise add to greenhouse gases.

When it is time to transplant, the pot and saucer should be buried below ground with the young plant. Scratching or cracking the surfaces of the pot and saucer when transplanting will cause them to decompose underground within eighteen months unlike petro-plastic that will take 200 years! By decomposing, the carbon stored in these materials will be organically sequestered instead of being released into the atmosphere.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Planting trees can be challenging and a lot of fun. Tree seeds exist in a dormant state that must be broken before germination can take place.

1) Moisten the grow-mix in its original bag by adding $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of water at a time. Wait for the water to be completely absorbed before adding more water. Drain excess water thoroughly from the bag and transfer the moistened grow-mix into the biodegradable pot.

2) Plant seeds at the depths shown for each variety:

Heartnut - 2 to 3 cm (.75"-1.25") **Roselow** - 0.5cm (.25")

Seaberry - 0.5 cm (.25") **Korean Pine** - 1 to 2 cm (.5"-.75")

Dwarf Goji - 0.25 cm (.125") **Sugar Maple** - 0.5 to 1 cm (.25"-.5")

3) To accelerate germination, a cooling period can be helpful. Place the pot (with planted seeds) in the crisper section of your refrigerator for a few weeks. Then remove and transfer to a warm location in your home.

When your seeds germinate the most vigorous small tree should be saved for transplanting outdoors. A second small tree can be cultivated as a bonsai plant. There are numerous references and books on the subject. Just Google "instructions for growing bonsai indoors".

4) Transplant the little potted tree outdoors when large enough (approx. 8-15cm/3"-6" high) to survive in real soil. The ideal time to transplant is when the ground becomes sufficiently warm in late spring or early summer. Don't forget to scratch or break the surface of the pot before placing it in the ground.

Please email any comments or questions to: trees-arbres@seraconcandles.com

IN PRAISE OF PLANTING TREES

Planting trees connects us physically, spiritually and aesthetically to the natural world where they play a crucial role in ensuring our very survival.

TREES

- absorb massive amounts of carbon dioxide from the air. Less CO₂ in the atmosphere means a reduced greenhouse effect and less global warming
- give us the breath of oxygen we need thousands of times a day
- provide shade and cool us from intense summer heat and subdue bitter winter winds
- produce complex root structures that hold the soil (prevents erosion) and hold water to reduce flooding
- even hold soil on slopes and keep waterways free of silt; and then store enough water to overcome periods of drought
- protect and support innumerable living species from amphibians to zebras
- restore the earth's fertility (nitrogen, humus, minerals, etc) without our help
- support every aspect of human activity from food and shelter (building/furniture) to medicines and cosmetics.
- are the most effective solution for neutralizing our over-consumption of energy (by absorbing excess greenhouse gases)

The outer box and booklet are printed on recyclable paper stock. The soil-less growing mix is made up of Canadian sphagnum peat moss (macronutrients) combined with perlite (micronutrients), vermiculite (wetting agent), and limestone (ph adjuster).