

Haringey Draft Guidance on Fruit Trees on Plots – May 2023

Fruit trees Paragraph 10.9(b) of the 2010 version of the Tenancy Agreement says *“to keep fruit trees or bushes at a maximum height of 3 metres and all trees and branches shall remain within the boundary of the Allotment Garden and shall not obstruct any pathway; and (c) Not to plant any trees, shrubs, or other plants likely to be invasive to adjacent plots”*.

It was understood when drafting the 2010 version of the Tenancy Agreement that all existing fruit trees should be kept at a maximum height of 3 metres and that all new fruit trees should be planted on M9 dwarf or M26 semi-dwarfing root stock restricting the tree height to 3 metres and that all new trees should not be planted within 1.5 metres of the boundary of the allotment garden.

An addition to the Haringey Notes for New Tenants and/or site-specific tenant handbooks is recommended as follows:

“You are allowed to plant fruit trees on your allotment garden. However, all fruit trees should be kept at a maximum height of 3 metres and all new trees should be on M9 dwarf or M26 semi-dwarf rootstock restricting the height of the tree to 3 metres. Trees should not be planted within 1.5 metres of a neighbouring plot or communal pathway or residential property.

All new trees, especially figs should be planted in root control bags or something similar to restrict growth and the spread of potentially invasive roots. Root control bags also provide for the easy removal of trees within a 10 year period.

Please speak to the Site Secretary or Site Association before buying and planting new fruit trees and bushes”.

It is also suggested to add the phrase *“Fruit trees are not to cover more than 50% of the cultivated area of the allotment garden”*. As always local site associations can generate their own minor variations from Haringey guidance so long as they do not cut across any agreed principles.