Ginkgo tree (Ginkgo biloba)

Propagation: Planting seeds, cutting, or grafting

Seed picking period: Dried seeds will not germinate. Pick the matured seeds on the tree or on the ground right after they fall. (Handle seeds with care, i.e. plastic gloves, as they may give rashes to exposed skin.) Wash away the pulp of fruit and put the seeds in water. Pick only the most solid seeds which sink to the bottom of the water. Storage of seeds: Do not dry the seeds. Mix the seeds with wet river sand in plastic bags and keep them buried underground. The temperature should be 1-5 degrees Celsius.

Planting: Seeds can be planted right after picking in autumn, or the following spring. Soil & flower pot for planting: Use unglazed pots of 20 centimeters in diameter. Place soil for plants and flowers with much organic substances. You can plant 2 or 3 seeds in each pot.

Watering: Avoid a dry soil. Give enough water, usually once a day, and keep the soil moist. During the winter when the saplings shed leaves, water them once a week. Care of saplings: Keep the pot indoors until seeds germinate. When they germinate, put the pot in a sunny place but keep the moisture of the soil. Two years after germination, in spring (no leaves in winter season), plant the saplings in the ground.

Advice compiled by Chikara Horiguchi (botanist) and Tetsuya Sera (The Hiroshima Botanical Garden)
November 2011