

## Tatura Trellis

This high yield V-shaped trellis system from Australia. The main advantage of the V-trellis system is that it allows maximum light interception and light distribution in the tree.



Cherry varieties are grafted onto Gisela 5 rootstocks and the whips are planted at 4' spacing along the trellis. Five wires are positioned on each side of the support poles (which are set at 60°) starting at 24" from the ground using 12" intervals up to 7'. As the trees grow two scaffold branches are trained onto the bottom wires, one on each side of the V-trellis. Minimal pruning during the formative first three years and only bending and tying will induce earlier fruiting and reduce vigor. Once the trees have come into the cropping phase excess laterals and growth can be removed.

- Extremely strong
- Easy to net for birds
- Cover with plastic in case of rain to avoid cracking
- It is possible due to dwarfing rootstocks like Gisela 5
- Great light penetration, important in cherries
- Great air flow, less disease
- 60° post angle is perfect for training and maximizing fruit production
- Summer pruning used to regulate canopy depth
- Most productive system in world

An alternative method to this system is to plant two “feathered” trees, one for each side of the trellis. Because these trees can be developed with minimal pruning they will generally come into production 1-2 years sooner.

Gisela Rootstock Series produce dwarf trees 40-70% smaller than standard trees, bear 3-4 years faster, are adaptable to a wide range of soil types, boast wide-angles and flat branching (easier and more flexible to support and train), and can produce 40 pounds of cherries in their first years. Gisela 5 is 45% and can be maintained at 6-10'. Any management system must allow for annual renewal of shoot growth to balance the early and heavy cropping of these rootstocks. Starting the fourth year 60-70% of the canopy should be removed in August. Because the produce so heavily, it actually stunts the tree, they want to bear fruit more than they want to grow.