Persimmon (Diospyros kaki)

**Propagation:** Planting seeds or grafting

**Seed picking period:** Pick the fruits on the tree before they fall in full maturity. Wash away the pulp of fruit and put the seeds in polyethylene bag.

**Storage of seeds:** Dried seeds will never germinate. 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 deep 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. When saplings shed their leaves, water usually once a week.

**Care of saplings:** Persimmon is an intolerant tree and pots should be kept in a sunny place. After germination, keep the moisture of the soil. Plant the saplings in the ground in the first spring after germination (no leaves in winter season).

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