The 'Mollar de Elche' Pomegranate

The 'Mollar de Elche' Pomegranate is an exceptional choice for Perth WA. Originating from Spain, it is famous for producing highly sought-after, sweet, pinkish-red fruit with soft, edible seeds. Because it naturally thrives in hot, dry, Mediterranean coastal conditions, it is perfectly suited to handle Perth's blistering summers and sandy soils.

To successfully plant a 'Mollar de Elche' Pomegranate into the ground in Inglewood, WA, you need a lean 70/30 mix of your native sand and Scotts Osmocote Premium Plus All Purpose Potting Mix, combined with strict full-sun placement and consistent watering to protect its soft-seeded fruit.

Exact Step-by-Step Planting Instructions

1. **Choose an Ultra-Sunny Spot:** Find a location that receives **at least 8 hours of blistering direct sunlight** daily to maximize sugar development and sweetness in your 'Mollar de Elche' fruit.
2. **Dig the Hole:** Dig a hole **twice as wide** as your tree's nursery pot, but exactly the same depth as the root ball.
3. **Mix the Lean Soil:** Combine **70% of your native Inglewood sand** with **30% of the Scotts Osmocote All Purpose Potting Mix** next to the hole. Do not add rich manures or high-nitrogen fertilizers.
4. **Position the Tree:** Gently slide the plant out of its container and lightly loosen any tightly circled outer roots. Place it into the centre of the hole so the top of the root ball sits **level with the natural ground surface**.
5. **Backfill and Settle:** Fill the hole in with your 70/30 soil mixture, pressing down gently around the base to eliminate large air pockets.
6. **Water In Deeply:** Mix your seaweed tonic with water according to the packet instructions and drench the root zone thoroughly to settle the sand.
7. **Apply Mulch:** Spread a **5 cm layer of Richgro Pinebark Mulch** over the root zone to hold onto moisture, keeping the mulch a few centimetres clear of the main stem.

Managing 'Mollar de Elche' Specific Traits

- **Consistent Watering for Fruit Safety:** This variety produces heavy crops of soft-seeded fruit, but uneven watering during late summer ripening causes the skins to split. Maintain a steady routine of deep watering twice a week during its first two Perth summers.
- **Avoid Heavy Fertilizing:** Pomegranates naturally favour poor, lean soils. Restrict feeding to prevent the plant from wasting energy on heavy leaf growth instead of producing fruit.

