

# Limoneira 8A Lemon

## Origin

The Limoneira 8A is a selection of Lisbon, developed in California. The selection was released in South Africa around 1998 and now constitutes approximately 4% of total lemon plantings.

## Ownership

Open.

## General Description

A vigorous Lisbon selection with good production, medium fruit size and high oil content. It has protracted flowering.

## Tree Characteristics

The tree is vigorous, slightly smaller than Lisbon. Thorns are small to 20mm in length.

## Rootstock Options

As the Limoneira 8A is of Lisbon origin, it should be compatible with all rootstocks. Compatibility on Volckameriana and Carrizo has been confirmed in the Eastern Cape.

## Fruit Characteristics

Fruit size is medium to large. The rind can be fairly thick, smooth to coarse and slightly ribbed. The fruit shape is round to oval with a fairly large point. Juice

levels of fruit off young trees in a hot area are borderline, similar to Lisbon. Seed counts vary from 5-20 seeds per fruit (similar to Lisbon). Reported to have a protracted blossom and high oil content.

## Production

Yields can be slightly lower than Eureka, although some trees observed in the Eastern Cape have yielded exceptionally large crops.

## General

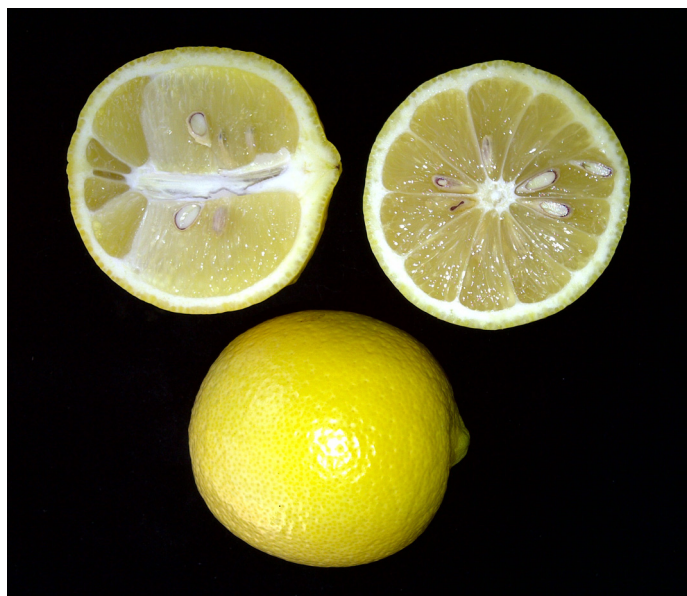
Limoneira 8A Lemon does not require crop manipulation but it is susceptible to sunburn and wind blemish. Thrips can be a problem in certain areas as well as Citrus Black Spot. Limoneira 8A is fairly tolerant to greening disease. Harvest, packing and shipping requirements are as for Eureka and other lemons. Peteca spot can be a problem in certain years. Endoxerosis which is a form of granulation can occur in well coloured, over mature fruit, depending on area and climate.

## Status, Area Suitability and Availability

Some Limoneira 8A trees in South Africa are performing well. Growers that have Lisbon Lemon plantings as well prefer Limoneira. Area suitability appears as for other lemons. Commercial quantities of propagation material available from the Citrus Foundation Block.

## Key References

The information in this fact sheet is based on various reports from Citrus Research International.



Limoneira Lemon fruit showing typical shape, rind texture and seed counts. Note purple colour when seeds are cut through.



Thirteen year old Limoneira Lemon tree on Swingle citrumelo showing typical vigorous growth and tree shape (height 2.8 m)



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## Evaluation Data

### Internal Quality

Data still to be included.

### Count distribution

Data still to be included.

### Production

For 10 year old trees, 160 to 200 kg per tree and 66.7 to 83.4 tons per hectare at 6m x 4m spacing (417 trees/ha)

### Export %

Data still to be included.

### Comment

The Limoneira lemon is slightly more vigorous than the Eureka, but thorns are larger. To date the Limoneira has been a success in South Africa, particularly in the Sundays River Valley, the country's largest lemon production area. As a result of its higher oil content this lemon is often favoured for lemon processing. Because this lemon is compatible with Swingle citrumelo rootstock it is a good replant choice where citrus nematodes are a problem.



Disclaimer: Information contained in this publication is provided as general advice only. For application to specific circumstances, professional advice should be sought.