

Louisa Valencia

Origin

The Louisa, formerly known as Letaba Oranje, is a mutation discovered in 2000 by Burgert van Rooyen on the Group 91 Citrus Estate in the Letsitele region of the Limpopo Province. In view of its seedlessness and good fruit size this selection is considered to be a promising addition to the new range of Valencia selections being evaluated.

Ownership

Burgert van Rooyen.

General Description

A mid maturing Valencia with good internal quality and appearance. In the Letsitele area fruit matures mid to late July.

Tree Characteristics

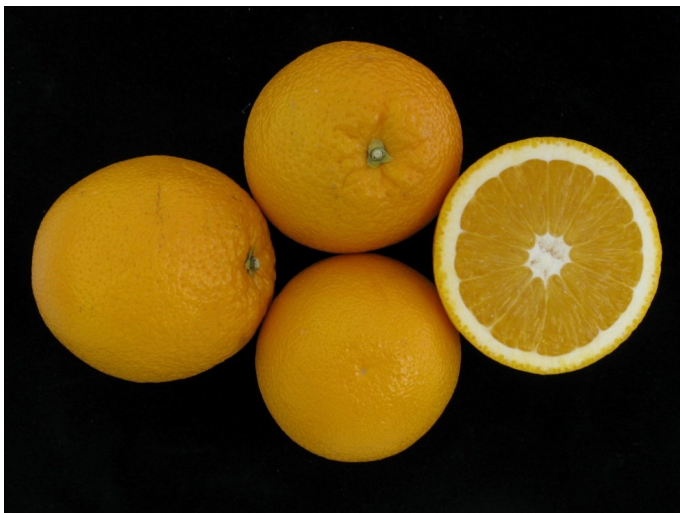
The tree is fairly compact, but erect and bears good, early crops of large fruit.

Rootstock Options

Suggested rootstocks are Swingle citrumelo and Carrizo/Troyer citrange, depending on soil type and whether plantings are on new or replant ground. Rootstocks inducing lower sugars and acid levels are not advised.

Fruit Characteristics

Fruit size is a uniform medium to medium large with smooth rinds. Fruit shape is round to slightly elongated and fruit rind colour is uniform developing a deep yellow at maturity. Louisa fruit peel reasonably easily, but rind



Louisa fruit from young trees showing typical shape, rind texture, colour, rind thickness and seedlessness.

oil is high on freshly harvested fruit. Internal flesh colour is orange and flesh texture is softer than standard Valencias. The trees being evaluated are still young, but to date internal quality and flavour have been acceptable. Maturity is mid July to mid August depending on area. The majority of fruit vary from 90 to 75 mm (counts 48 to 72). Louisa is seedless.

Production

Yields of 50 to 60 tons per hectare are expected for mature orchards. Young trees bear well.

General

It is doubtful whether the Louisa will require crop manipulation as yields to date have been promising. Harvest, packing and shipping requirements as well as post harvest disorders should be as for other Valencia's.

Status, Area Suitability and Availability

Experimental - suitable Valencia areas. Limited quantities of propagation material are available from the CFB.



Three year old Louisa tree showing spreading growth and a good crop (tree height 1.5m).

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Key References

The information in this fact sheet is based on evaluations by Citrus Research International.

Evaluation Data

Internal Quality - Louisa on Carrizo citrange - Count 56 - Letsitele						
Date	Juice %	Brix	Acid	Ratio	Seed	Colour
11/06/2009	51.1	9.0	1.05	8.6	0	2
23/07/2009	52.6	10.4	0.93	11.2	0	1
07/08/2009	48.7	10.7	0.97	11.0	0	1

Count Distribution

There is insufficient information at this stage to give an accurate count distribution.

Production

There is insufficient information at this stage to give accurate production data.

Export %

There is insufficient information at this stage to give accurate export data.

Comments

The Louisa has shown promise to date and could be of value in spreading the Valencia season in the future. It was previously named the Letaba Oranje.