

# Patensie Early Navel

## Origin

A branch mutation discovered in a Palmer navel orchard on the farm of C. Malan in the Patensie area of the Gamtoos Valley during 2005. It is currently at the experimental stage and has not yet been released in South Africa.

## Ownership

C. Malan - patent pending.

## General Description

A very early maturing navel with very good internal quality and external appearance. In the Patensie area fruit matures during late March early April on Rough Lemon rootstock.

## Tree Characteristics

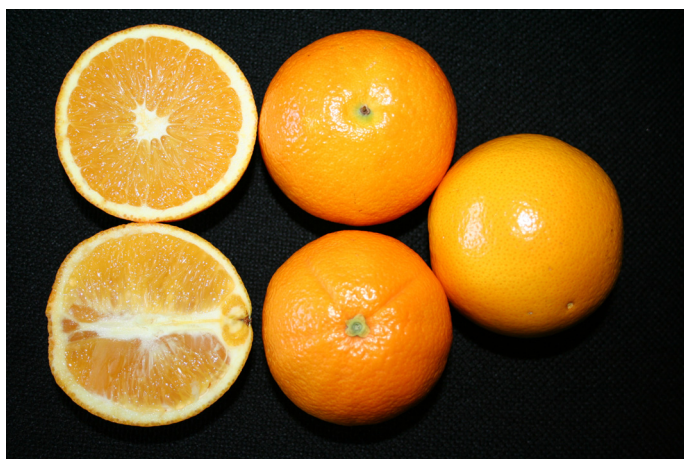
The branch is similar in growth, shape and yield to the remainder of the tree. Vigour appears to be similar to normal navels.

## 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. Navel ends are small to closed. Fruit shape is round and rinds are smooth, similar to the normal Palmer fruit on the tree. The fruit rind develops an orange colour during March and is 3 to 4 colour prints earlier than the other fruit on the parent Palmer navel tree. Peelability and



Patensie Early Navel fruit showing typical bright orange colour, shape, rind texture, rind thickness and navel end.

rind oil are reasonable and similar to most other Navel selections. Internal flesh colour is orange and flesh texture is soft and tender. The flavour is very good with high sugars, acid levels and a ratio of 10:1 late in March. It is currently the earliest maturing navel selection known in South Africa. Fruit size ranges from 70 to 85 mm (Counts 88 to 56) with normal crops.

## Production

Unable to provide accurate figures relating to production until young trees are in bearing.

## General

As with other navel selections it is probable that the Patensie Early will not require crop manipulation and it will not be susceptible to any pests and/or diseases other than those common to other navel selections. Harvest, packing and shipping requirements as well as post harvest disorders should be as for other navels.

## Status, Area Suitability and Availability

Experimental - suitable navel areas. Limited quantities of propagation material are available at the Citrus Foundation Block.

## Key References

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



Palmer navel (left) alongside Patensie Early navel (right) showing earlier colour.



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## Evaluation Data

Internal Quality - Patensie Early on Rough Lemon - Count 56/64 - Gamtoos River Valley						
Date	Juice %	Brix	Acid	Ratio	Seed	Colour
01/04/2010	49.7	9.4	0.98	9.6	0	5
13/04/2010	53.7	9.8	0.80	12.3	0	3-4
20/04/2010	53.8	9.6	0.75	12.8	0	1-2
04/05/2010	37.5	9.5	0.67	14.2	0	1

**Note:** Numbers of fruit had to be reduced for testing due to limited availability of fruit on the branch.

### Count Distribution

Insufficient data available to give an accurate count distribution.

### Production

Insufficient data available to give accurate production.

### Export %

Insufficient data available to give an accurate export percentage.

### Comments

The Patensie early is an extremely promising branch mutation that has retained its characteristics for the past three years. Based on the fruit on Rough Lemon it matures approximately end March to early April. As an early start to the season it could play a substantial role in extending the season of superior quality eating fruit in the discerning markets.



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