

Suitangi Navel

Origin

A tree mutation discovered in a navel orchard on the farm of Igmar Ferreira in the Patensie area of the Gamtoos Valley during 2006. It is currently at the experimental stage and has not yet been released in South Africa.

Ownership

I. Ferreira - patent pending.

General Description

A late maturing navel with excellent internal quality and external appearance. In the Patensie area of the Gamtoos Valley fruit matures mid to late July on rough lemon rootstock; fruit hangs well on the tree.

Tree Characteristics

The tree is similar in growth, shape and yield to other average navel selections. Vigour is similar to other navel selections.

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 even though the parent tree is on Rough Lemon.

Fruit Characteristics

Fruit are a uniform medium to medium large. Navel ends are very small to closed. Fruit shape is round with occasionally elongated fruit and rinds are smooth, similar to average navel selections. The fruit rind develops a deep orange colour at maturity. Peelability

and 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, good acid levels and a ratio of 10:1 in early July on Rough Lemon. Fruit size ranges from 70 to 80mm with normal crops. Maturity should be 2 to 3 weeks later on Carrizo or Swingle.

Production

Yields appear good, however there is insufficient information available at this stage to give accurate figures.

General

The Suitangi does not require crop manipulation and it is not 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 are as for other navels.



Suitangi navels showing typical smooth rinds, shape and closed navel ends.



Suitangi Navel tree on Rough Lemon showing typical navel growth and spread of good sized fruit (height 2.5 metres).



Version 1: May 2012

Status, Area Suitability and Availability

Experimental - suitable navel areas. Propagation material is not yet available from the Citrus Foundation Block due to virus eradication procedures.

Key References

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

Evaluation Data

Internal Quality - Suitangi on Rough Lemon - Count 64 - Gamtoos River Valley						
Date	Juice %	Brix	Acid	Ratio	Seed	Colour
23/07/08	54.7	14.0	1.03	13.6	0	1-2
08/08/08	59.2	15.0	0.94	16.0	0	1
21/08/08	57.6	14.4	0.95	15.2	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.

Export %

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

Comments

The Suitangi is a very good quality navel that should be on citrange or citrumelo rootstock to increase acid levels and give it a more realistic maturity date. Based on the fruit on Rough Lemon it matures approximately mid July, but if it were on higher acid inducing rootstocks it should mature late July to mid August. It could then play a substantial role in extending the season of superior quality eating fruit in the discerning markets. The fruit hangs well on the tree.



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