

# Tambor Mandarin Hybrid

## Origin

The origin of the Ortanique is unknown but it was discovered in Jamaica as a chance seedling in 1920. It is considered to be a natural Tangor (mandarin x orange hybrid). The name is a synthesis of or(ange), tan(gerine) and (un)ique. Due to a trademark on the name, it was locally named Tambor – a synthesis of Tamb(uti) or(ange). It has mainly been grown in the hot humid areas. It has various names around the citrus world which include Topaz, Ortaline, Mandora and Ormanda.

## Ownership

Open.

## General Description

A late maturing Tangor of medium to large fruit size mainly planted in the hot, humid areas. The fruit has high quality with high sugars and strong flavour and is not easily peeled.

## Tree Characteristics

The trees are fairly vigorous, growing into fairly large, spreading, dense trees of drooping habit. The branches are slender and virtually thornless with medium sized leaves. The trees are reliable producers with good crops.

## Rootstock Options

The trees are reported to have performed well on Rough lemon and Minneola x trifoliolate hybrid in the Malelane area. High acid inducing rootstocks should not be considered in colder production areas.

## Fruit Characteristics

Fruit size is medium to large. The fruit is slightly flattened at the styler end and often has a small navel. Overall the fruit shape is fairly flat, sometimes with a slightly raised shoulder, depending on climate. The rind is smooth, leathery and tightly adhering, becoming coarser in drier climates. It ranges from thin to medium in thickness, depending on the climate. Peelability is initially difficult and very oily. Rind colour is yellow orange with orange flesh. The fruit is juicy with tender pulp and tough segment walls. In suitable climates (warmer) the fruit has a rich, distinctive, sweet flavour with well balanced acid and a strong, rich aroma. In cooler climates, the acid is overbearing. The fruit is seedy in the presence of pollination.

## Production

Production is good, however figures are still to be included.

## General

Over production in one season can lead to alternate bearing so pruning and fruit thinning may be options to reduce fruit set in an 'on' year. Styler end splitting can be a problem in years when navel size is excessive, possibly due to high temperatures during the fruit set period. Harvest, packing and shipping requirements are as for other mandarin hybrids. The fruit is reported to hang well on the tree and store well without the juice developing off flavours.

## Status, Area Suitability and Availability

The Tambor is planted commercially on a limited scale, making up 2% of all mandarin hectareage. It is planted mainly in hot, humid areas. Limited quantities of propagation material are available from the Citrus Foundation Block.

## Key References

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

## Evaluation Data

### Internal Quality

Data still to be included.

### Count Distribution

Data still to be included.

### Production

Data still to be included.

### Export %

Data still to be included.

### Comments

The Tambor is not likely to play a role in the South African soft citrus industry due to its negative characteristics.



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

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