

# Tulegold Navel

## Origin

The Tulegold was discovered as a branch mutation on a Washington navel tree in California, but exact details of its origin are vague.

## Ownership

Open.

## General Description

An earlier maturing navel than Washington with very good internal quality and external appearance. The tree itself is similar to the Washington parent, but the fruit colours earlier and stores well on the tree in South African evaluations. Tulegold has shown to be dwarfed in Californian plantings with stem lesions a possible cause of this problem; this has not occurred in SA plantings in the East Cape to date. It matures in early May, i.e. 3 weeks before Palmer, but hangs well into early July in the East Cape Midlands.

## Tree Characteristics

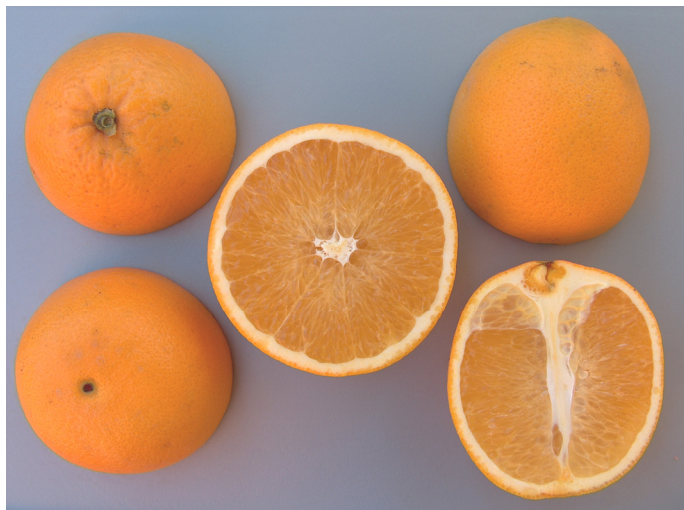
The tree is less vigorous than most navel selections, but shape and yield are similar to other average navels.

## 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 are a uniform medium large. Navel ends are small



Mature Tulegold navels showing typical shape, rind colour and texture as well as hidden closed navel.

to closed, but this hides an open structure beneath the navel. Fruit shape is round and rinds are smooth. The fruit rind develops a deep uniform 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, acid levels and a ratio of 10:1 in mid May. Fruit size ranges from 85 to 70 mm (Count 56 to 88) with normal crops. Fruit hangs well on the tree.

## Production

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

## General

The Tulegold 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.

## Status, Area Suitability and Availability

Experimental - suitable navel areas. Propagation material is currently not available at the Citrus Foundation Block.

## Key References

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



Tulegold and Palmer navels showing colour variation early in the season.



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## Evaluation Data

Internal Quality - Tulegold on Troyer citrange - Count 56 - East Cape Midlands						
Date	Juice %	Brix	Acid	Ratio	Seed	Colour
22/04/2009	50.4	11.8	1.21	9.8	0	4
06/05/2009	47.7	12.1	1.24	9.8	0	1-2
13/05/2009	48.9	11.8	1.17	10.1	0	1-2
17/06/2009	50.7	12.9	1.10	11.7	0	1

### 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 Tulegold is a very good quality navel that could be of value in spreading the harvesting season earlier so that Palmer and Washington navels could be picked closer to peak maturity. However, due to possible compatibility issues, this cultivar has been withdrawn from the Citrus Foundation Block.



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