



2015 Annual Report

In the past year, a large number of our cultivars reach Final release from STG phase, (Shoot Tip Grafting: Groei Punt Enting), these are now in evaluation and some already in semi commercial blocks. At present, cultivars on our books comprise:

44 cultivars in selection phase, pre STG.

15 local and 14 off-shore cultivars in STG phase

21 have reached Final Release to the Citrus Foundation Block and are being propagated for CRI's trial sites across the country. A further 20 previously released are being planted into semi commercial trials and some will bear fruit during the 2015 season. In this phase we determine true to Typeness and if the variety is of probable value.

The STG and Released cultivars comprise the following



Navels: 14 Early, Late and Ultra Late Navels. – These have reached Final release and are now in evaluation/experimental phase. Some of these that are looking very promising are being planted in semi commercial plantings. Of special mention:

- Suitangi, KS Late and Lazy Boy; 3 high quality Late to Ultra late navels, are showing outstanding quality, small Navel ends and good hanging and shelf life results.
- Powell Late Navel; commercially released for some time and continues to perform well in comparison with other Australian Late Navels.
- DeWet Mid-Late Navel, an interesting discovery. A Navel without a visible Navel. With the assistance of Dr. Graham Barry it has been identified as a Navel with all the navel characteristics. Matures between Palmer and Lane Late. CGACC will propose it for further research to determine its susceptibility to pests such as Oleander/M. Bug, FCM etc. for markets sensitive to these pests, Korea China etc.
- Addo Early, (formerly EH) and LF1, the earliest maturing of South African selections in the past 2 seasons. 2-3 weeks before Lina/Newhall. Addo Early a large deep orange fruit, ripens evenly. In a packing/post-harvest trial this year it packed out 90% at the SRCC showing no creasing. The first budwood is being propagated at the CFB for the first commercial planting in 2016. LF1 data shows high quality early internals. It has reached interim release and trees for evaluation are being made.
- Glen Red is a promising red pigmented mutation of Lina that has a red blush in the rind. This cultivar will come in before Cara Cara and extend the red Navel season.





Soft citrus: 2 early Satsumas, 3 early Mandarins, 3 early Clems, 4 Midseason Mandarins, 3 late Mandarin hybrids. These are spread out between STG and Final release. 2 early Mandarins, Sirio and Etna, brought in by industry pre CGACC are open varieties that have produced the first fruit in evaluation this year, ripened before Nova.

- Tanorlate a promising ultra-Late seedless Mandarin is receiving interest from growers.
- Tasty 1 is another promising looking early-mid hybrid.

Valencia's: 11 early to late cultivars, 3 near seedless. Of these, Mclean SL, Benny and Turkey are commercially released for some time. 7 others ranging from Early, Late and Seedless are currently in early evaluation

Lemons: comprise 1 long-shaped Eureka selection which will be evaluated for shape and juice %. Negotiations are in progress on offshore disease tolerant Lemon varieties and High rind oil Lemons.

Grape Fruit: Four, Sweet/Red Grapefruit Hybrids have recently been imported and are in Post quarantine clean-up. Perceived health problems associated with Grape Fruit has caused further pressure on demand. Furanocoumarin a chemical found in Grape fruit appears to exert inhibitory action on drug metabolism especially Statins used in treatment of Cholesterol. The Hybrids imported show little to no Furanocoumarin and show no ill effects in clinical trial results.

Rootstocks: 3 varieties from UCR, showing tolerance to soil-borne pathogens and

calcareous conditions. 7 rootstocks from Argentina are now through STG. We are involved in negotiations for a collection of root stocks showing tolerance in replant, calcareous soils, and drought and brak conditions.

Production, Postharvest and Market acceptance:

The next phase sees the most promising cultivars being planted in semi Commercial trials to determine their potential for; yield, fruit size, Internal and external quality, rootstock suitability, postharvest shipping and market acceptance trials. If proven of value then Plant Breeders Right Protection is applied for. Thereafter as new data is compiled it will progress to our new web site Information sheets, for Growers to see and or make application to plant. (See our web site, still in early development at; cgacc.co.za.)

Identification of new cultivars

One of our main activities has become closely linked to

Trends and Stats Analysis

Sustained excellent prices; for lemons and Late Mandarins in recent times has led to an alarming short term trend of unprecedented plantings of these 2 Groups. With reference to Dr Paul Fourie's presentation at this year's Citrus Summit a further 18 million cartons of Lemons can be expected by 2020 and a further 21 million cartons Late Mandarins. What are the alternatives? I am asked almost daily by growers what to plant as they become fearful of oversupply of these 2 groups.

I recently heard Dr. Graham Barry refer to 'planting a spread portfolio' as one would do with a share portfolio in volatile markets. Sound advice; as this not only spreads ones bets but also spreads ones harvesting, packing and cash flow peaks. Advice by the world's most successful investor; Warren Buffet; "Be fearful when others are greedy and greedy when others are fearful".

As a result, our focus remains on the procurement of a spread of Cultivars across

all varieties of Citrus, in fashion and out of fashion. Quality is always king, but characteristics such as, earliness, lateness, seedlessness, productivity, colour, peelability, disease tolerance and any new perceived important trait of the Modern citrus fruit are looked for. Considering that the minimum time from discovery to commercial release of a variety is about 15 years, we cannot be sure what will be in fashion, but long term trends are critical and these show a steady decrease in Oranges in developed countries to Easy peelers.

Growers are reminded in this new season to be on the lookout for any different looking fruit on your trees, you might just discover that Alternative. I would also draw your attention if you have not already done so to download a copy of; *"Snykant /cutting Edge, 161 re the discovery and handling of new mutations"*. From the CRI web Site.

