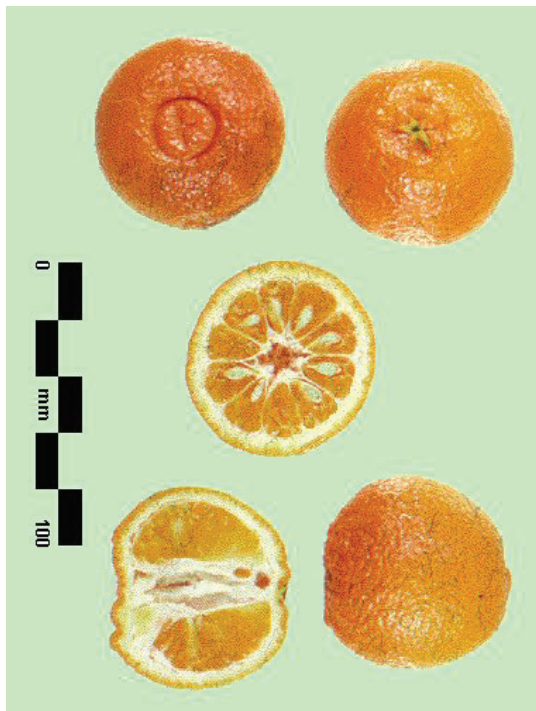


mandarin variety fact sheet

Clementard Clementine



Origin

Spain, probably originated as a bud mutation of Fina clementine. Imported into Australia in 1990 and released to selected nurserymen in 1994.

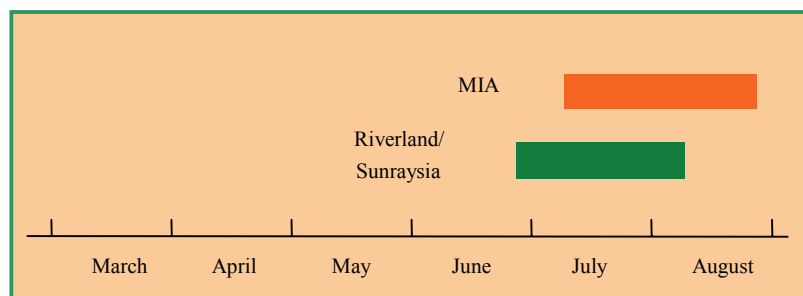
Type

Easy peel, mid to late season maturity, low seed number if isolated from other citrus pollen sources.

Market

Fresh, domestic. May have export potential due to its extended maturity period. Has a higher fruit acidity level than Hernandina, the clementine variety which matches part of its maturity period. Clementard has also been considered superior to Hernandina in preliminary taste testing.

Marketing season (estimated)



Internal quality

Preliminary fruit quality testing shows clementard to have higher sugar ($^{\circ}$ Brix) and acid levels than Hernandina clementine. With juice acid levels approximately 30% higher than Hernandina clementine. Seed number ranges from 0-16 per fruit in mixed citrus trial plantings. Seed number would be reduced if trees are isolated from other citrus as clementines are self incompatible.

External quality

Basal greening of the fruit is also a problem with this Clementine, similar to Hernandina clementine. Skin colour intensity is not as 'orange' as Hernandina and fruit size is generally smaller (6.0 - 6.7cm in diameter). Skin texture is slightly coarse and pebbly with skin thickness 4mm. Fruit is more round than flattened and can set in very high numbers, leading to over-cropping.

Postharvest performance

Fruit should be clipped from the tree. De-greening of fruit would need to be assessed under Australian conditions to extend the marketing season. This variety would follow Nules onto the market if grown in commercial quantities.

Clementard mandarin variety fact sheet

Field performance

Trees are very dense, compact and prone to limb splitting. Over-cropping can bend limbs and when combined with canopy weight, tear major limbs from young trees. A high level of management would be required with this variety to prune, shape and fruit-thin young trees. Clementard requires more structural manipulation than Hernandina in southern Australia. Fruit size appears to be naturally small and will require good management to achieve marketable size.

Pest and disease

No specific pest and disease problems have been noted to this point (January 2002).

Extent of plantings

Commercial: Several commercial plantings established. Budwood demand low.
Research: Research agency arboreta, small trials and trees planted for potential budwood supply.

State of knowledge



Clementard is not widely grown in Spain, but has a reputation for palatable, tasty fruit. Initial observations in Australia suggest it is a very difficult clementine to manage and this could limit it becoming a commercial variety.

Growers should ensure that trees are propagated from Approved Budwood obtained from AusCitrus.

Last Revised: January 2002

Disclaimer:

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

