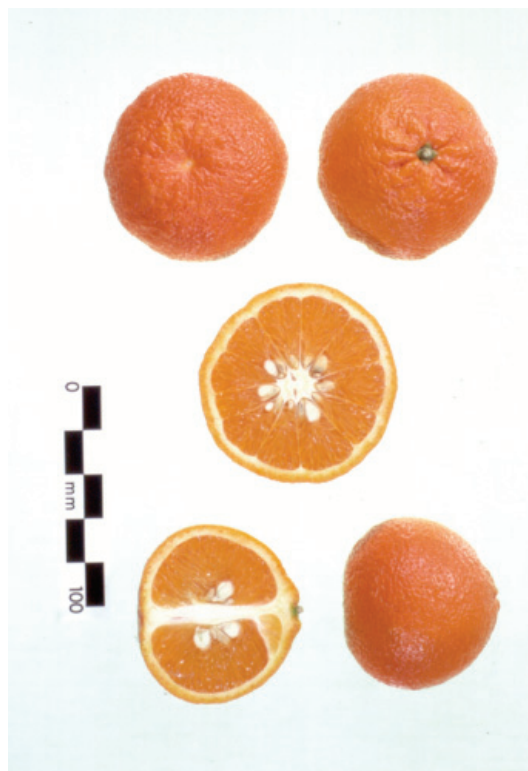


## mandarin variety fact sheet

# Topaz (Ortanique)



### Origin

An Israeli selection of a natural hybrid between a mandarin and an orange (tangor) found in Jamaica. It is marketed as Tambor in South Africa, Mandora in Cyprus and Topaz in Israel. Imported into Australia in 1990 and released to selected nurserymen in 1996.

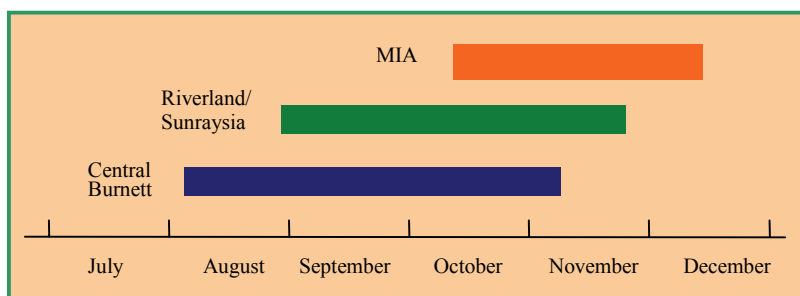
### Type

Late season maturity, seedy.

### Market

Fresh fruit domestic/export. Fresh juice. There is a small volume of Ortanique on local markets. This fruit is produced from trees derived from seeds imported in 1965.

### Marketing season (estimated)



*Brix:Acid reached 10:1 on 19<sup>th</sup> August in Sunraysia in 1999.*

### Internal quality

Preliminary juice testing has shown Topaz can attain a brix:acid ratio of 12.5:1 in late September, whereas Murcott mandarin reached a ratio of 18:1. Topaz maintained a brix:acid ratio between 9:1 and 12.5:1 through August and September suggesting good on tree storage characteristics.

Juice content averages 50% and is highly coloured. Average seed number per fruit ranges from 14-25 in a mixed mandarin planting. Fruit segments can be difficult to separate and have membranes which are 'chewy'.

### External quality

The climatic conditions where the fruit is grown has a major influence on external appearance. Under tropical conditions the skin is pale orange, smooth and thin. In warm, inland Australian climates the skin is highly coloured (orange), coarse and ranges from 3.6 – 5.0 mm thick. Fruit size is medium to large with an average diameter between 7.9 and 8.7 cm on hand-thinned, grafted trees. Fruit will hang on the tree into late Spring without any significant deterioration in external appearance.

