

NAVEL ORANGES: Powell

FRUIT: Seedless. Round shape. 3.0 to 3.5 inches in diameter equates to a 48 to 88-box count. Deep orange colored rind with a pebbly texture, thin to medium thickness, and high puncture resistance. Holds well on tree. Less regreening than Lane Late. High juice and sugar content. Good sugar/acid ratios and total soluble solids. Rich flavor. Juice characterized by the absence of the bitter taste associated with limonin levels which normally develop after navel oranges are juiced even though it contains levels similar to Washington . Intermediate level of granulation.

TREE: Indistinguishable from Parent Washington in appearance. Medium-strong vigor, dense, spreads dark green foliage.

HARVEST SEASON: February to June or July. 3 to 4 weeks later than Lane Late.

PROS: Good producer of quality fruit that is abundantly juicy, rich in flavor and has a well blended sugar / acid ratio. The strong rind provides exceptional ship ability and long shelf life in the marketplace. Premium price for "Ultra Late" navel oranges.

CONS: Granulation of the flesh common. Fruit tends to lose quality late in the season as it becomes over mature. Fruit rind develops a slightly coarse or rough texture and fruit drop becomes significant. These problems can be alleviated with the use of Gibberellic Acid and 2,4-D.

COMPATABLE ROOTSTOCKS: Carrizo, C35 Citrange, Trifoliolate, Citrumelos

RECOMMENDED SPACINGS:

Traditional: 20'x 20', 20'x 22', 22'x 22'

Double Planting Standard Rootstock: 10'x 20', 10'x 22', 11'x 22'

C-35: 18'x 18', 18'x 20', 20'x 20'

Double Planting C-35 Citrange: 9'x 18', 9'x 20', 10'x 20'

HISTORY: First observed growing in a planting of Valencia oranges owned by Mr. and Mrs. Powell of New South Wales, Australia in the early 1980's. The first trees propagated were involved in seven years of continual testing and evaluation to insure consistency of quality before it was decided to promote Powell as a new variety. In 1988, the first trees were commercially sold in Australia and it became the first citrus variety in Australia to receive a U.S. Plant Patent. Powell was part of the original Australian late orange trial conducted by the Citrus Clonal Protection Program in 1992. It is currently licensed throughout Australia and the United States. Powell is a patented variety and the Australian owners and the United States licensee share the royalties.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS: Quality may vary with locale, climate, microclimate, soil condition, and management techniques. Finding the right location may be the key to growing late navel oranges successfully. They may be best planted at higher elevations with good air drainage to reduce the risk of frost damage. Fruit ripens in the southern Central Valley, progresses north through the Central Valley and finishes with those planted along coastal citrus regions.