

## lemon variety fact sheet

# Eureka



### Origin

Eureka lemon originated in 1858 in California from selections made from imported seeds from Sicily. Eureka is the most widely grown lemon variety in Australia, California, South Africa, Israel and Argentina. The most widely grown Eureka selections in Australia are Taylor and Lambert. Taylor is a nucellar selection from the home of C.M. Taylor at Crows Nest in Sydney, NSW in 1955. Lambert is a nucellar selection from H.R. Lambert near Taree, NSW in 1956.

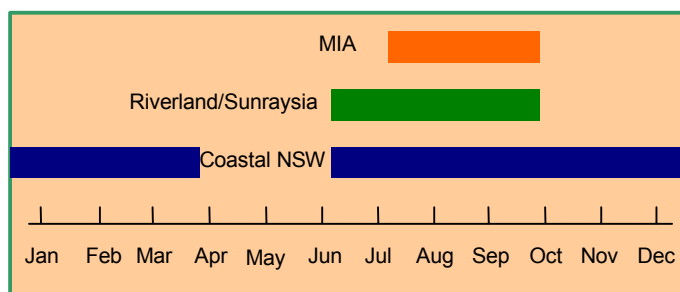
### Type

Eureka lemon is a winter producing lemon but in coastal growing areas it also produces two to three small crops in spring and summer.

### Market

Mainly fresh domestic and some export. Some fruit is used for juice processing. A major export market currently exists in Japan for high quality, chemical free lemons. Premium prices are paid for summer lemons in Australia.

### Marketing season (estimated)



### Internal quality

Medium to thin skin, flesh colour greenish-yellow, high juice and acid levels. Seedless to five seeds per fruit.

### External quality

Fruit from the main winter has an average weight of 160-180g. Eureka fruit are usually medium-small but become large and puffy two to three months after maturity. Fruit shape is elliptical to oblong and fruit has a short neck and medium nipple. Eureka lemon has yellow skin at maturity and often has ridges on fruit surface. Eureka has a tendency to produce fruit in terminal clusters and is prone to wind blemish. In coastal growing areas citrus scab and melanose diseases cause blemish and disfigurement of the fruit rind.

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### Postharvest performance

Fruit keeps well in cold storage and is well suited to the 'curing' process carried out in California. With proper postharvest handling and fungicide treatment, good quality fruit can be harvested in July/August and cool stored until December/January. Summer lemons attract premium prices on the Australian market.

### Field performance

Eureka lemon produces trees of medium size and vigour. Trees are precocious, productive and have a spreading habit with sparse foliage. Eureka lemon trees are markedly less cold tolerant than Lisbon lemon and are virtually thornless, making picking easier. Eureka lemon is incompatible with *Poncirus trifoliata* and Troyer and Carrizo citranges. Trees on these rootstocks produce a characteristic 'yellow ring' at the bud union and usually decline at 6-10 years after planting. Eureka lemon is compatible with Benton citrange, rough lemon, sweet orange and the recently released trifoliata hybrids Fraser and Cox.

### Pest and disease

In coastal growing areas Eureka lemon is susceptible to Citrus (lemon) scab (*Sphaceloma fawcettii* var. *scabiosa*), melanose, broad mite, bud mites. Incidence of citrus scab and melanose are dramatically reduced with regular removal of dead and diseased wood from trees. Leaf miner is a problem in young trees due to the constant production of new growth.

### Extent of plantings

Currently Eureka is the most widely planted type of lemon in Australia. In 1996, there were 1.58 million trees of Eureka lemon (48% of the total lemon plantings in Australia) and the majority of these (61%) were of bearing age.

### State of knowledge

very  
limited

very  
high

Growers should ensure that trees are propagated from Premium budwood obtained from Auscitrus.

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#### Disclaimer:

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



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