

Lisbon

Origin

Lisbon lemon is of Portuguese origin and was first grown in Australia from seeds in 1824. Lisbon lemon is also popular in California, Arizona, Uruguay and Argentina. The selection currently supplied by Auscitrus (Prior nucellar) was imported into Australia from California in 1965. Another selection known as Limoneira 8A was imported into Australia and released from plant quarantine in 2000. Limoniera 8A is currently the most popular Lisbon lemon selection in California and Arizona.

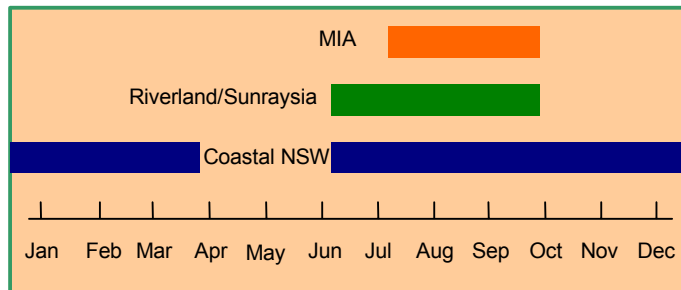
Type

Lisbon is a winter producing lemon, with production of one main crop in winter and early spring.

Market

Fruit is mainly used for fresh domestic markets. Small amounts of Lisbon fruit are used for export markets and juice production. Cool stored Lisbon lemons attract premium prices for summer lemons on the Australian market between late November and February.

Marketing season (estimated)



Internal quality

Rind is medium in thickness, flesh colour pale greenish-yellow, tender with high juice and acid levels. Seed content varies from seedless to a few per fruit.

External quality

Lisbon fruit are medium in size and elliptical to oblong in shape, with an inconspicuous neck and prominent nipple. Fruit is generally smoother and less ribbed than Eureka lemon and fruit colour is yellow at maturity.

Postharvest performance

Fruit keeps well in cold storage and stands up well to the 'curing' process carried out in California. With proper postharvest handling, fungicides and cool storage treatments the fruit can attract premium prices on the summer lemon market in Australia.

Lisbon lemon variety fact sheet

Field performance

Lisbon lemon trees are large and have a vigorous, upright growth habit. Trees have dense foliage and are very productive. Lisbon lemon trees grown at wide spacings can out-yield Eureka by up to 25 per cent. Trees are thornier than Eureka lemon. Fruit is produced on the inside of the tree canopy and therefore protected from wind, sun and cold damage. Lisbon is generally hardier than Eureka with greater cold tolerance and heat tolerance. It is grown successfully in the cool winter/hot summer inland districts of Sunraysia, the mid-Murray and the Riverland. Production is mainly restricted to winter and early spring. Unlike Eureka, Lisbon is compatible with *Poncirus trifoliata* and Troyer and Carrizo citrange rootstocks. It can also be budded on rough lemon rootstock but this combination produces very large trees. In the Central Coast growing region, Lisbon lemon on *Poncirus trifoliata* produces a smaller tree than on Troyer and Carrizo citrange rootstocks, but is highly productive.

Pest and disease

In coastal growing areas Lisbon 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

Lisbon lemon is widely planted in Australia and is second only to Eureka lemon in area planted. In 1996, there were 0.94 million trees of Lisbon lemon (29% of the total lemon plantings in Australia) and the majority of these (77%) were of bearing age. There has been minor interest in the Limonieira 8A selection since it was released in 2000.

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.

