

Sweet orange



Origin

Of ancient origins. Various selections of sweet orange are in use as rootstocks. The Australian selection 'Parramatta' was selected at Parramatta NSW, following the devastating root and collar rot outbreak of 1860-1870. The selection 'Joppa' was introduced as seed from India in 1912, presumably being originally from Joppa, Palestine.

Tolerance to environmental and soil conditions

Grows well in most citrus production areas, with acceptable cold hardiness and salt tolerance. Suitable for most soil types except those that have poor drainage or are highly calcareous. Susceptibility to *Phytophthora* is this rootstock's main pathogen limitation. However, it is one of the few rootstocks showing good tolerance to blight, citrus tristeza virus and exocortis viroid.

Field performance

Produces large trees that can be long-lived and productive. Trees are supported by an extensive root system. Generally not used in replant situations on account of poor *Phytophthora* tolerance.

Nursery performance

Reasonably vigorous in the nursery and easy to bud. Sensitivity to *Phytophthora* requires a high level of nursery hygiene.

Fruit quality

Produces fruit of high quality. Tendency for a later maturity time than some citranges but fruit quality is maintained on the tree for longer.

Scion compatibility

Highly compatible with all citrus varieties, resulting in a smooth bud union. Rare cases of 'self-cincturing' have been observed where seed was of uncertified origin.

Sweet orange rootstock fact sheet

Advantages

- ✓ fruit quality & yield
- ✓ blight tolerance
- ✓ cold tolerance
- ✓ suitable for all scion varieties

Disadvantages

- × *Phytophthora* sensitive
- × nematode sensitive
- × intolerant of calcareous soils??

Extent of plantings

Has declined in importance because of susceptibility to *Phytophthora*, and resulting unsuitability for most replant situations. Still favoured by some growers.

Overseas experience

Has been a widely used rootstock in the past, but current usage is declining.

State of knowledge

very
limited

very
high

Disclaimer:

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



Auscitrus

Growers should ensure that trees are propagated from true to type disease free budwood obtained from Auscitrus.

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