



Alpha mid maturing valencia

- The Alpha valencia was discovered by the late Mr. Dennis Solomon. This cultivar is currently the property of Crocodile Valley Estates near Nelspruit in Mpumalanga, South Africa.
- The Alpha valencia is protected by Plant Breeders' Right in terms of the Plant Breeders' Rights Act, No. 15 of 1976 (as revised), which prohibits illegal propagation (PTR No. PT 3129).
- The Alpha valencia will be marketed along with other valencias and no specific marketing name will be used at this stage. The Alpha valencia may be exported as a seedless valencia standards.

Origin and use

The origin of the Alpha valencia is a branch mutation in an Olinda valencia orchard near Rietspruit on the Crocodile Valley Estate near Nelspruit.

The Alpha valencia was chosen exclusively for its early ripening time compared to the Olinda valencia, its good fruit size, high fruit production, good internal fruit quality and because it offers firm fruit that can be hung late. The fruit are also practically seedless.

Fruit Characteristics

The fruit size is generally medium to large (72 mm tot 86 mm in diameter) and production is comparable to that of the Benny valencia.

The ripening time is approximately 4 to 6 weeks earlier than the Olinda, but 1 to 2 weeks later than the Benny valencia. However, the fruit are hang well due to their firmness and good internal quality.

The fruit shape is usually round with seedless fruit in solid blocks. The peel is slightly rough, like the Benny valencia. Fruit are juicy and have firmer fibres.

Tree characteristics

The trees are smaller and more compact than the Olinda valencia, but not as dense as the Midnight valencia. Production is more uniform in comparison with the Delta valencia.

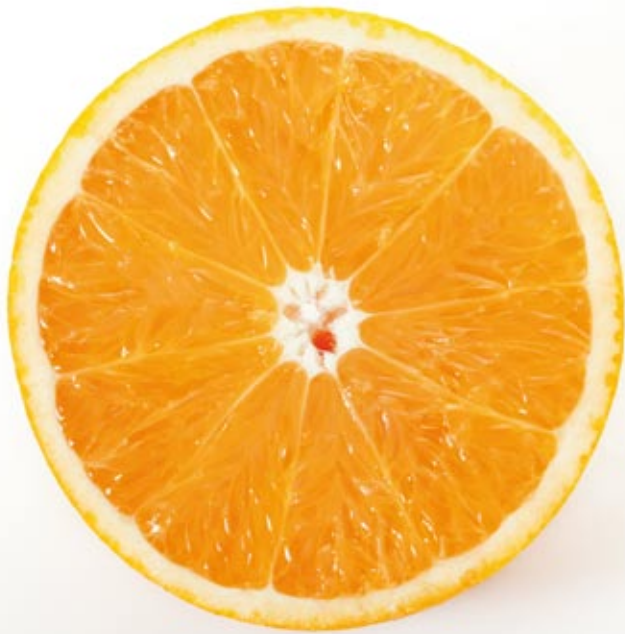
The Alpha valencia is compatible with several rootstocks like Troyer and Carrizo Citrange and Swingle Citrumelo. Furthermore, it is also compatible with rough lemon and Volkameriana.

Climate requirements

The Alpha valencia thrives in all of the valencia production areas in South Africa. It is especially adapted where erratic crop and fruit sizes are a problem. The Alpha valencia offers excellent fruit size and production possibilities.



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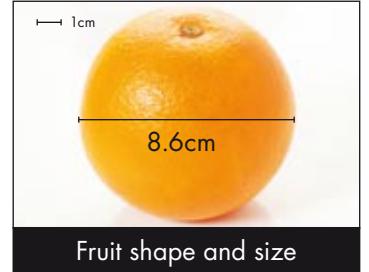
Tree with fruit



Florescence



Leaf shape



Fruit shape and size

Alpha mid maturing valencia – Technical information

Hybrid	Branch Mutation on an Olinda valencia tree
Origin	Nelspruit area, Mpumalanga, South Africa
Ownership	Crocodile Valley Estates
Selected	1995
PBR registration	PT 3129

Internal quality tests				
Test date	Juice %	Brix°	T.Acid %	Brix / TA Ratio
13/07/99	56.2	11.7	1.07	10.93
13/07/00	54.4	10.5	1.45	7.24
11/07/01	58.7	11.34	1.34	8.46
28/07/06		10.6	0.81	13.1

Optimum ripening date	End June to 4th week in July
Alternate bearing or other problems	Less prone to wind and insect damage. Not as sensitive to alternative bearing as Delta valencia
Rootstocks used in evaluation	Troyer Citrange and Rough Lemon

Tree characteristics	More compact growth habit compare to old clone selections, with spreading growth habit.
Fruit size	Varies between 72mm and 86mm
Fruit shape	Round to slightly oblong
External appearance	Similar to Benny valencia with pebbly rind
Internal appearance	Deep orange with large even segments
Peelability	Moderate, oily rind
Seed	0–0.1 seed on average per fruit in solid blocks
Flavour	Juice content is high with a good flavour

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