

New OLL Sweet Orange Clones Producing Exceptional Pre-HLB Fruit Quality

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New OLL somaclone-derived nucellar clones at Lee Family Groves (St. Cloud, FL).

The new OLL (Orie and Louise Lee) series of sweet oranges (OLL-4, OLL-8 and OLL-20) are very high-quality processing sweet oranges that generally produce higher soluble solids and better juice color than 'Valencia'. The original new OLL somaclones were regenerated from embryogenic callus derived from the original unstable OLL tree discovered by Orie Lee. Trees are more vigorous than Valencia,

and anecdotal evidence suggests they are slightly more HLB-tolerant than 'Valencia'. More recently, we have been evaluating a large population of OLL somaclone-derived nucellar seedling clones. Trees are now 9 years old, and have never had formal psyllid control. Juice quality data this season from the population identified 9 clones with brix >12 and soluble solids/box > 6.5. Tree health continues to

be exceptional on several of these clones, with the best clone FB-R4-T4 producing 13 brix, and 7.22 lbs. solids/box. Superior clones are being propagated for advanced trials, and entered into the state Parent Tree Program. These new OLL sweet oranges hold great promise for improving Florida NFC juice quality.

Funding



Lee Family Groves (St. Cloud, FL)