

University of Florida/IFAS

Water Conserv II Field Day: Pomegranate

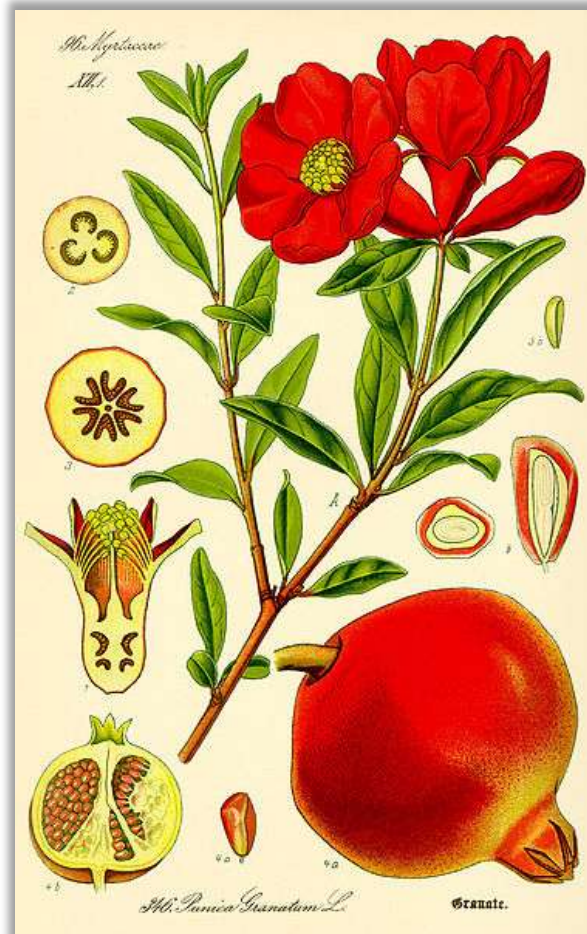
May 10, 2011

Hosts

Ryan Atwood, Multi-County Extension, Lake County
Gary England, Multi-County Extension, Sumter County

Presenter*

Bill Castle, Professor Emeritus [bcastle@ufl.edu]



VISIT THE NEW POMEGRANTE WEBSITE AT

[Http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/)

Q1. What are the best poms for Florida?

A. Look today at the 38 plants planted at Water Conserv II. They are now 2 years old and most selections flowered profusely this year. Some already have small fruit. The cultivars are listed below. Overall, we now have a collection of about 85 selections shown on page 3. The **bolded names** are for the 2,500 plants available this Spring. If you are interested, please contact us.

 N Cultivar	Tree number in row
Shirin Zigar	38
Surh-anor	37
Kazake	36
Kunduzski	35
Al-sirin-nar	34
Salavatski	33
Toryu-shibori	32
Double Red #2	31
Double Red #2	30
Wonderful	29
Wonderful	28
Wonderful	27
Sakerdze	26
Sakerdze	25
Sakerdze	24
Afganski	23
Afganski	22
Grenada	21
Angel red	20
Sweet	19
Sin Pepe	18
Sin Pepe	17
Desertnyi	16
Desertnyi	15
Desertnyi	14
Gissarskii Rozovyi	13
Medovyi Vahsha	12
Medovyi Vahsha	11
Medovyi Vahsha	10
Vkusnyi	9
Vkusnyi	8
Parfyanka	7
Parfyanka	6
Azadi	5
Sirenevyi	4
Sirenevyi	3
Azadi	2
Azadi	1

ID	#	Variety
	1	Afganski
	2	Al-Sirin-Nar
	3	Alk Pust Ghermez Saveh
	4	Angel Red
	5	Apseronski
	6	Apseronski krasnyj
	7	Azadi
	8	Bala Miursal
	9	Chandyr
	10	Desertnyi
	11	Double Red #2
	12	Entek habi saveh
	13	Girkanets
	14	Gissarskii Rozovyi
	15	Grenada
	16	Kaim-anor
	17	Kara bala miursal
	18	Kazake
	19	Knuduzski
	20	Medovyi Vahsha
	21	Mejhos 6269
	22	Nikitski ranni
	23	Parfyanka
	24	Saartuzski (Yalta)
	25	Sakerdze
	26	Salavatski
	27	Shirin Pust Ghermez Saveh
	28	Shirin Zigar
	29	Sin-Pepe
	30	Sirenevyi
	31	Surh-Anor
	32	Sweet
	33	Tabestani malas Biranden saveh
	34	Toryu-Shibori
	35	Vkusnyi
	36	Wonderful
	38	Larkin (Marianna)
	39	Christina
	40	Gainey Sweet
	41	Russian #8
	42	Cranberry
	43	Dwarf(J)
	44	Shari's
	45	Zubejda (Denau)
	46	Haki-botan
	47	Kaj-acik-anor
	48	Mejhos
	49	Nikitski ranni
	50	Big yellow
	51	Treehouse Vietnam
	52	Eve(H)
	53	Dwarf(H)
	54	EG
	55	Fleischman
	56	Dwarf ©
	57	Red Silk
	58	Garnet Sash
	59	Eversweet
	60	Kasmir Blend
	61	Parfianka
	62	Myagkosemyannyi Rosovyi
	63	Ariana
	64	Molla Nepes
	65	Purple Heart
	66	Ki Zakuro
	67	Dotch Legrelley
	68	Double Red/White
	69	Nochi Shibori
	70	WEO 42
	71	©Hydranar x Kirmizy Kabuh
	72	Mack Glass
	73	Padgett
	74	Cloud
	75	Comb's Sweet
	76	Crab
	77	Don Somner North
	78	Don Somner South
	79	King
	80	Mae
	81	Mae II
	82	Pink
	83	Rose
	84	Sweet
	85	Thomson

Q2. Responses in Spring 2011 of plants in field trials?

A. In February, we surveyed 5 plantings from Perry to Fellsmere that were less than 1 year of age to the 2-year-old trial at Conserv. Virtually all plants in Central Florida and the East Coast survived in good shape and were flowering by mid-February.

Q3. Pesticides?

A. A list of pesticides has been assembled that have been checked for their labeled use on pomegranates. Our contact has been Bob Moore, Pesticide Registration, Florida Dept. of Agriculture, (850) 617-7940 [Robert.Moore@freshfromflorida.com]. Also, we obtained information from these sites: National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPIRS) State Public website [<http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/>] and Crop Management Data Systems [<http://www.cdms.net/>].

A copy of that list has been provided today. Note that the use of these pesticides has not been studied in Florida, but all are registered with the EPA and the State of Florida. Remember, **The Label is The Law!** Always check the label because registrations change from time to time. No recommendations are offered today, but as is UF/IFAS policy, the following edited statement applies: The pesticides mentioned today are in compliance with the Federal and Florida regulations governing pesticide use that were in effect at the time of this field day. The pesticide user is responsible for determining that his or her intended use fully agrees with the directions for use stated on that pesticide's container. Use pesticides safely. Always read and strictly follow pesticide label directions. [UF/IFAS]

Q4. Nursery and cultural practices?

A. We have changed our nursery practices and now train plants in 1-gallon pots to single stems about 18 inches long before allowing branches to form. Some cultivars are easier to train to that form, but all plants may eventually benefit from having a single trunk.

Another observation is that some pruning and training of the canopy may be helpful in the first few years to preclude lodging from the weepy branches pulling over the plant especially when laden with fruit. Remember, however, that pomegranate bears on new wood so pruning in the springtime is not appropriate.

Anecdotal evidence suggests [not confirms] that the addition of organic matter to the planting hole or planting site is beneficial on the Ridge's sandy soils.

Pomegranates in Florida appear to be very responsive to fertilizer. The plants can seemingly go from a beautiful green to pale green overnight. If you choose to conduct leaf analyses for nutritional status, California standards are very similar to those for orange trees.

***Acknowledgments**

Special thanks to Jim Baldwin, Senior Biologist, who has been the mainstay of our pomegranate project. He has overseen the collection of plant accessions, propagation of plants and the establishment of our foundations trials. Thanks also to Jim Nunnallee who helped ferret out the pesticide information.



The photo above is of leaves infected with the fungus *Cercospora*. A more serious problem appears to be another fungal problem which begins at the blossom-end of the fruit and affects the skin and can enter the locules and affect the edible part of the fruit. There is no convincing evidence that identifies the causal organism, but it is likely to be one that is encountered while trying to grow other crops in Florida. Therefore, management of this problem is wide open for grower observation, discovery and innovation.

On-line Resources

Robert Hodgson, 1917. The Pomegranate [go to Google books and enter pomegranate].

Fla. Dept. Agric. Consumer Serv. Plant Path. Circular re *Cercospora* leaf spot.
<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/pathology/pathcirc/pp194.pdf>

University of California Pomegranate Establishment Cost Study.
http://www.agmrc.org/media/cms/pomegranatevs2005_652CB989981D9.pdf

Ashton, Richard. "The Incredible Pomegranate." [Book available online, e.g., @ Amazon]

University of California Fruit and Nut Research and Information Center.
http://groups.ucanr.org/fnric/Fruit_and_Nut_Fact_Sheets/Growing_Pomegranates_in_California.htm#b