



Sonet mandarin

- The Sonet mandarin was bred by the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) of South Africa at the Addo Research Station by James Miller.
- The Sonet is protected by the Plant Breeders Right Act 15 of 1976 (amended) which prevents illegal multiplication (PTR No. ZA 20053324).
- The Sonet will be marketed as an early maturing seedless mandarin.

Origin and use

The origin of the variety is an open pollen cross between a Satsuma and Nova reticulata.

The cultivar is the earliest maturing mandarin hybrid with good internal quality, excellent flavour and easy peeling characteristics.

Consumers will perceive this fruit as Clementine-like in flavour with the easy peeling characteristic of a Satsuma.

Fruit Characteristics

- Sonet has a very thin rind and peels easily.
- The fruit ripens in late March early April in the Eastern Cape.
- The fruit is flat in shape similar to that of a Satsuma.
- The fruit is juicy and has a pleasant lingering aftertaste.

Tree characteristics

The tree is compact and Satsuma-like with Clementine-like leaf shape. The tree is precocious and heavy bearing. The cultivar is not sensitive to alternate bearing.

Sonet should be planted with high quality rootstocks such as Troyer and Carrizo citrange. It is possible that X639 and C35 may be suitable alternatives in the future.

Climate requirements

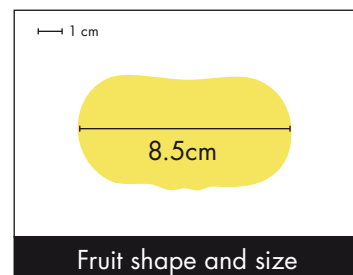
Sonet is adapted to any citrus production areas in South Africa which produce good quality Satsuma's or Clementine.



Tree with fruit



Leaf shape



Fruit shape and size

Sonet (B2-36) – Technical information

Hybrid	Open pollinated Miho Wase Satsuma seedling grown from seed taken from trees adjacent to Nova, Ellendale and Novelty pollen sources.
Origin	ARC-ITSC, Addo Research station, Addo, Eastern Cape, South Africa
Ownership	ARC-ITSC
Selected	First selected in 1997
PBR registration	Pending

Internal quality tests (Addo) (Trees tipworked to Carrizo Citrange rootstock in 2001)				
Test date	Juice %	Brix°	T.Acid %	Brix / TA Ratio
14/04/2008	67.4%	11.8	1.08	10.9

Optimum ripening date	Mid to late March in Eastern Cape
Alternate bearing or other problems	Fruit stays relatively firm and does not puff which is characteristic of satsumas
Rootstocks used in evaluation	Troyer and Carrizo Citrange and Swingle Citrumelo

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Tree characteristics	Trees are moderately spreading with leaves similar to clementines'. Trees are also semi-dwarfing and very precocious.
Fruit size	Fruit are medium to large in size, usually 6.5 – 8.5cm in diameter.
Fruit shape	Shape is Satsuma-like.
External appearance	The rind colour is yellow/orange to orange and responds well to degreening.
Internal appearance	Flesh colour is dark orange and open core.
Peelability	The rind is thin and peels easily leaving no albedo.
Seed	Fruit contains few or no polyembryonic seeds
Flavour	Fruit is juicy with a good flavour. Acid tends to drop quite quickly. Fruit rag is slightly tough.



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