

Midnight Improved Valencia evaluation

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Midnight Improved is an excellent eating, mid-season, seedless, Valencia from South Africa. It is a selection from the original Midnight but has shown no measurable differences in fruit quality in Australia.

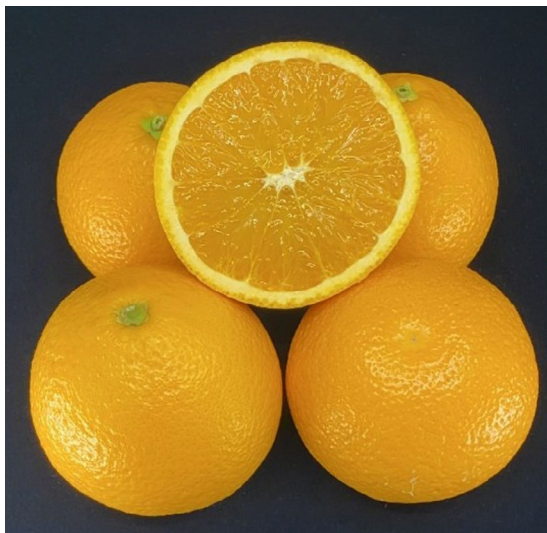


Figure 1. Midnight Improved Valencia oranges (left) and a Midnight Improved Valencia orange tree in Harvey, WA (right).

Estimated maturity window (BrimA ≥ 90)

[illegible]

Midnight Improved Valencia

Midnight Improved is a mid-season, seedless, Valencia from South Africa. It is a selection out of the original Midnight. In Sunraysia, full colour was from late June and was mature from September. The variety maintains the limb die-back seen in the original Midnight and showed no measurable differences from the original selection in our work. Midnight Improved trees were slightly smaller than standard Valencia and produced an excellent eating fruit.

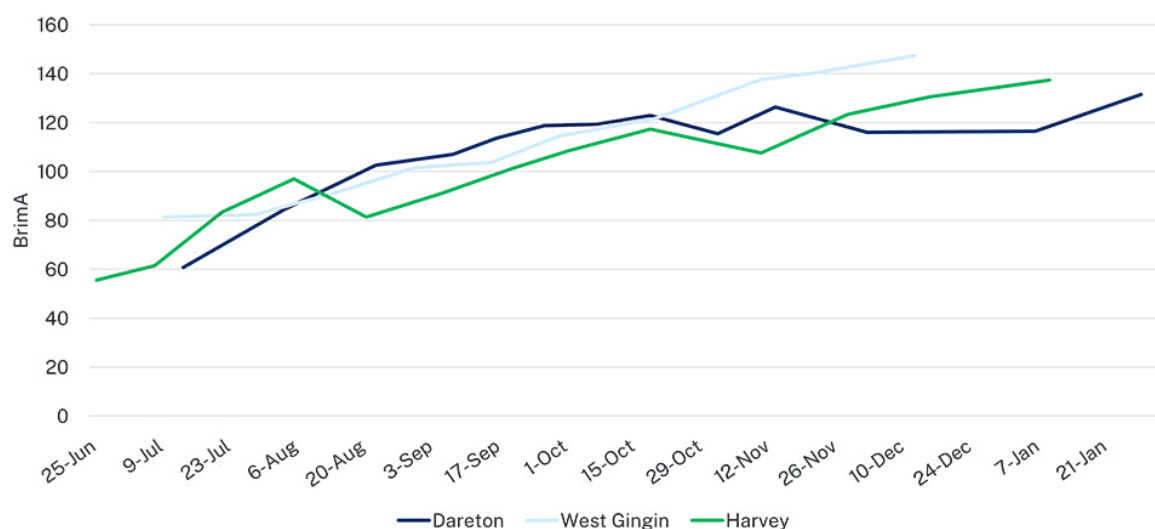


Figure 2. BrimA (Brix-(% acid × 4)) × 16.5 for Midnight Improved Valencia orange at Dareton, Sunraysia, NSW (dark blue), West Gingin, WA (light blue) and Harvey, WA (green). Data is averaged over four growing seasons. The Australian Citrus Standard for oranges is 90.

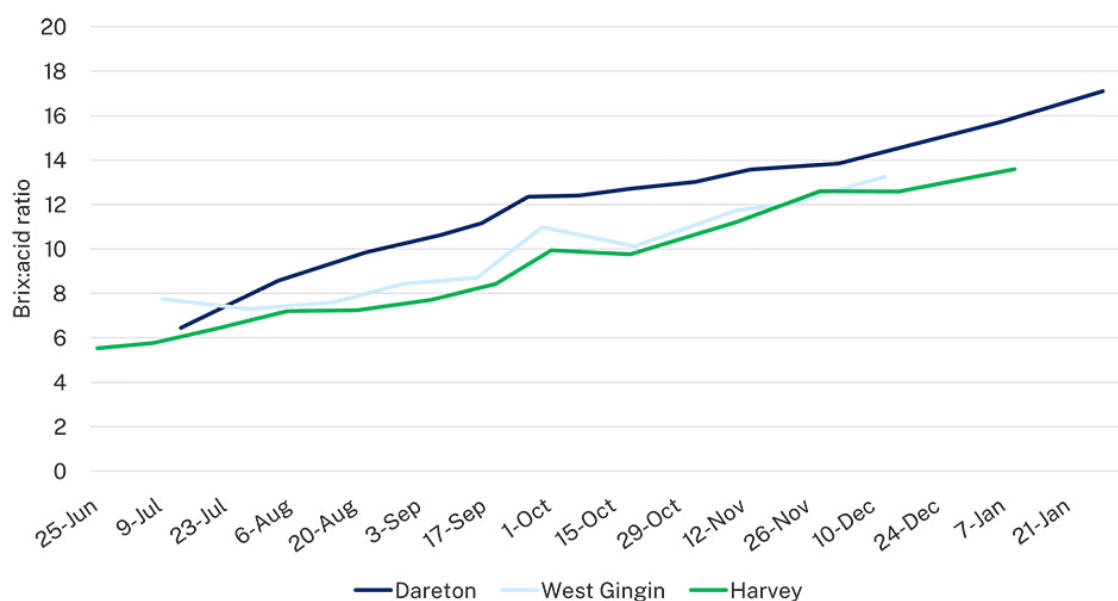


Figure 3. Brix:acid ratio for Midnight Improved Valencia orange recorded at Dareton, Sunraysia, NSW (dark blue), West Gingin, WA (light blue) and Harvey, WA (green). Data are averaged over 4 growing seasons.

Midnight Improved Valencia traits

Trait	Result
Skin	Lightly pebbled
Average rind thickness (mm)	4.7
Internal quality	An excellent eating orange into late December in Sunraysia.
Average number of seeds per fruit	0.0
Juice per cent (%)	52
°Brix	10.5
Acid per cent (%)	0.75
Brix:acid ratio	14
Average fruit weight (g)	280
Average fruit diameter (mm)	76.3

Representative sequential juice quality data

Date	Brix °	Acid %	Juice %	Brix:acid ratio	BrimA
14.07.2020	9.7	1.50	49	6.4	61
04.08.2020	9.6	1.12	54	8.6	84
17.08.2020	10.3	0.98	54	10.5	105
28.08.2020	10.4	1.05	58	9.9	102
08.09.2020	10.2	0.96	56	10.6	105
18.09.2020	10.2	0.88	52	11.5	110
06.10.2020	10.8	0.86	52	12.6	122
20.10.2020	10.4	0.74	54	14.0	123
02.11.2020	9.9	0.74	55	13.5	115
16.11.2020	10.6	0.71	52	14.9	128
Orange minimum standard					90

Grown in Sunraysia on citrange rootstock with Valencia interstock.

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