

Primefact

Benny Valencia evaluation

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A Valencia orange with good eating quality at maturity and 1.8 seeds/fruit that did not reach maturity standards in the cooler climate areas of Western Australia.

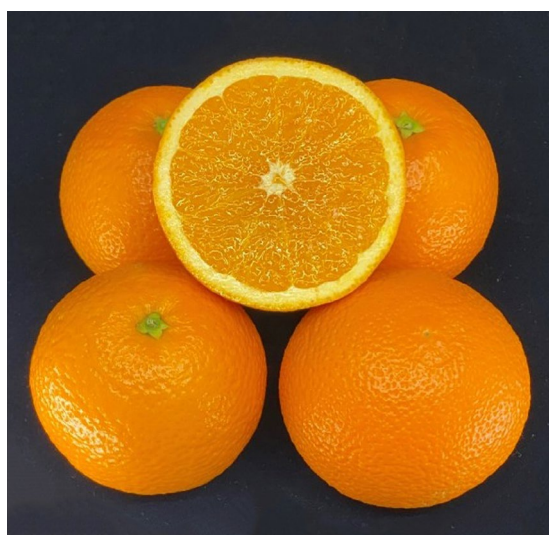


Figure 1. Benny Valencia oranges (left) and a Benny Valencia orange tree (right).

Estimated maturity window (BrimA ≥ 90)

Region	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sunraysia												
West Gingin												

With Benny Valencia failing to meet the Australian Citrus Standard at the cooler Harvey, Western Australia (WA) evaluation site, and being inconsistent at West Gingin, WA, it is not recommended for the cooler growing regions of the eastern states, including the Riverina, NSW, without testing.

Benny Valencia

Benny is a bud mutation of Olinda Valencia orange discovered in Southern Zimbabwe. Benny has pebbled skin. In Sunraysia, it reached BrimA of 90 in mid-September (Figure 2) and a Brix:acid ratio of 10 in early August and 12 in early November (Figure 3). It had very good fresh-fruit eating quality until mid-late December, when acid levels began to drop. Skins started softening in early November. Benny had 1.8 seeds/fruit in a mixed block.

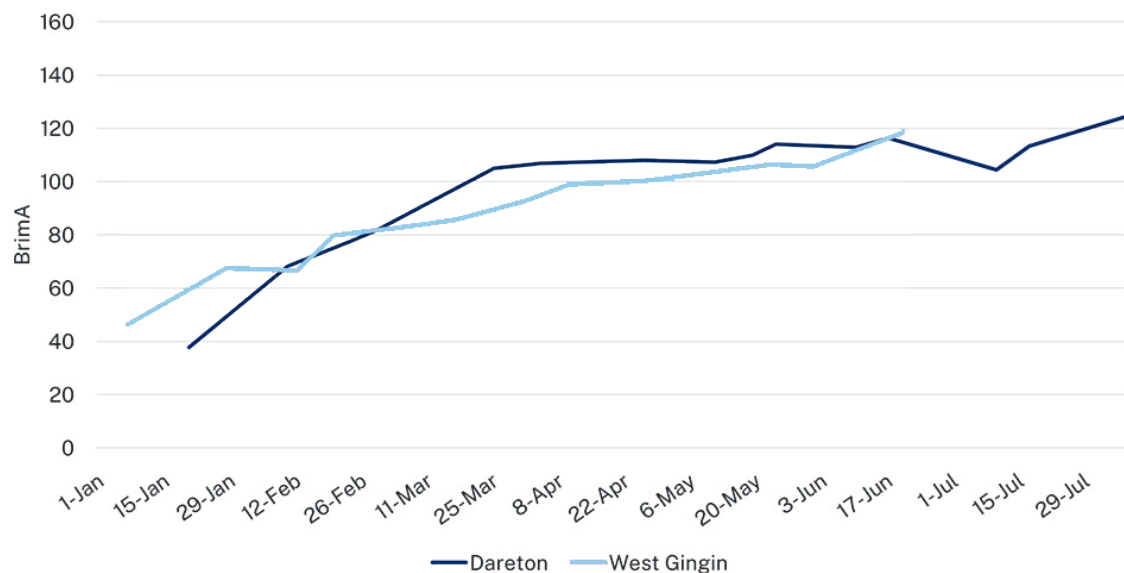


Figure 2. An average of 4 growing seasons' BrimA ($= \text{Brix} - (\% \text{ acid} \times 4) \times 16.5$) for Benny Valencia orange recorded at Dareton, Sunraysia, NSW (dark blue line) and West Gingin (light blue line), Western Australia. The Australian Citrus Standard for oranges is 90.

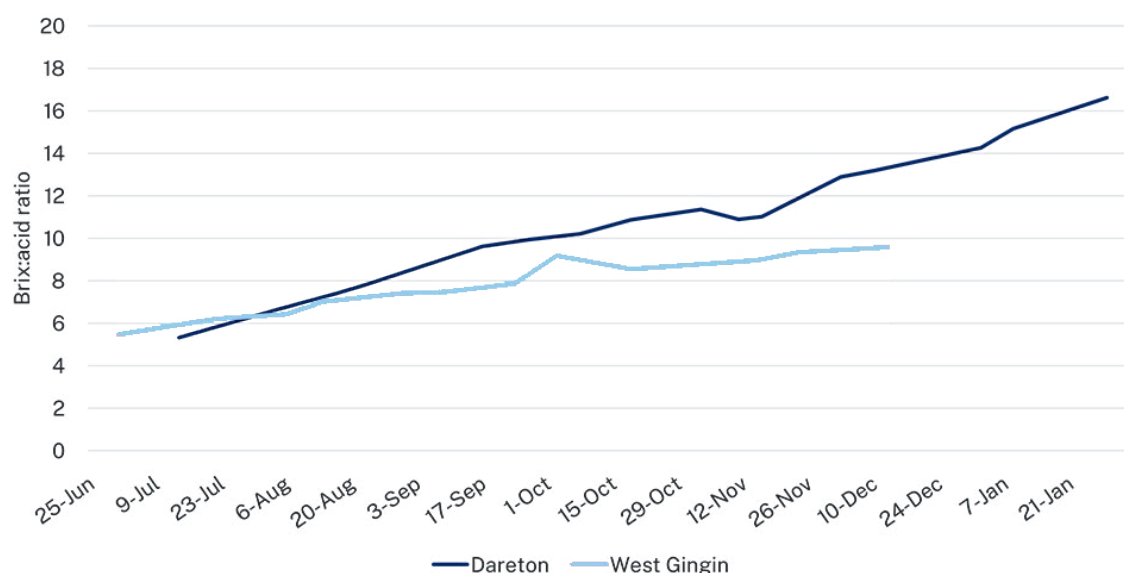


Figure 3. An average of 4 growing seasons' Brix:acid ratio for Benny Valencia orange recorded at Dareton, Sunraysia, NSW (dark blue) and West Gingin (light blue), Western Australia.

Benny Valencia traits

Trait	Result
Skin	Strongly pebbled skin, which is firm during the maturity window but softens in November. Colour break is mid-May, with full colour in late June, long before internal quality meets specification (BrimA ≥ 90).
Average rind thickness (mm)	4.9
Internal quality	Very good eating quality
Average number of seeds per fruit	1.8
Juice per cent (%)	50
$^{\circ}$ Brix	10.5
Acid per cent (%)	0.85
Brix:acid ratio	11
Average fruit weight (g)	183
Average fruit diameter (mm)	77.5

Representative sequential juice quality data

Date	Brix $^{\circ}$	Acid %	Juice %	Brix:acid ratio	BrimA
14.07.2020	9.2	1.73	48	5.3	38
4.08.2020	10.4	1.57	48	6.6	68
17.08.2020	9.8	1.29	54	7.6	77
18.09.2020	9.2	1.04	47	8.9	83
6.10.2020	9.5	0.92	48	10.3	96
20.10.2020	9.3	0.80	52	11.6	101
2.11.2020	9.5	0.83	51	11.4	102
16.11.2020	9.4	0.74	49	12.8	107
Orange minimum standard					90

Grown in Sunraysia on citrange rootstock with Valencia interstock.

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