UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
Washington, D.C.

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'US SEEDLESS PINEAPPLE ORANGE'

The Agricultural Research Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture announces the release of US Seedless Pineapple Orange.

With the exception of low seed count (average 0.2 seeds per fruit with a range of 0 to 2), US Seedless Pineapple fruit are essentially identical to standard Pineapple orange fruit. Fruit size of US Seedless Pineapple averages between 7.1 and 7.4 cm in diameter. Fruit shape and peel characteristics of the US Seedless Pineapple are rated as good, and stem end peel disruption (plugging) is not a problem.

US Seedless Pineapple is well adapted to central Florida conditions. Fruit yields of US Seedless Pineapple are comparable with yields reported for 'Pineapple' oranges on various rootstocks. US Seedless Pineapple is less prone to fruit drop than the wild type 'Pineapple' orange meaning that harvestable yield may be greater than for standard 'Pineapple' orange.

Total soluble solids for fruit of US Seedless Pineapple (10.3 to 11.1%) are comparable to 'Pineapple' oranges harvested in January or February from trees grown in central Florida. Juice color scores for US Seedless Pineapple based on one year of data from Lake Co. and two years of data from Osceola Co. exceeded CN 36 which would be classified as good.

Seedlessness should make US Seedless Pineapple attractive as a fresh market fruit moreso than the standard 'Pineapple.' In addition, because US Seedless Pineapple appears to be less prone to preharvest fruit drop than the standard 'Pineapple,' this provides an advantage to producers.

Signature:

Judith B. St. Jot

Deputy Administrator, Crop Production and Protection
Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

7/20/09
Date