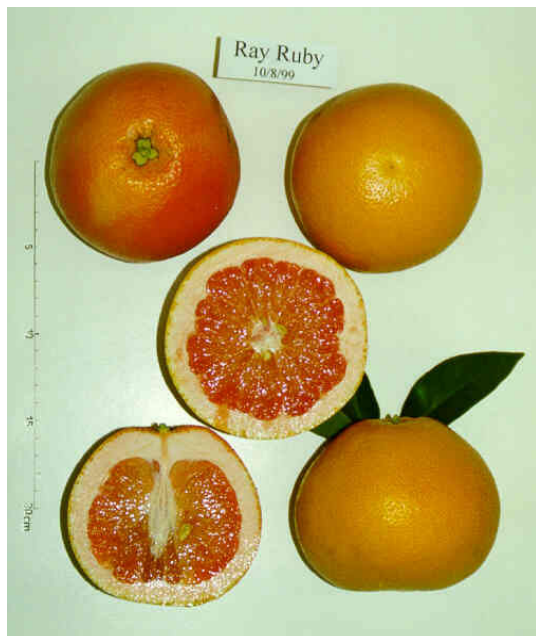


grapefruit variety fact sheet

Ray Ruby



Origin

Discovered in 1970 as a bud sport in Texas. Imported into Australia from California and released from plant quarantine in 1992.

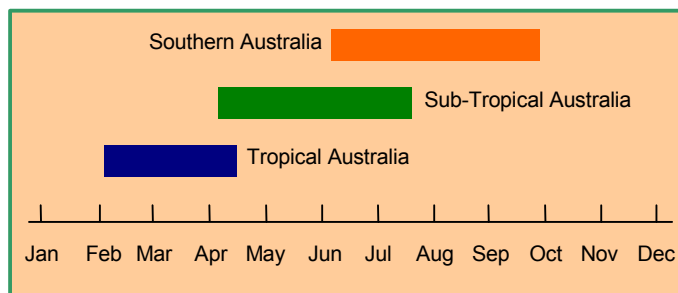
Type

Red fleshed grapefruit, low seed numbers

Market

Fresh fruit, domestic and export markets. Possible potential for fresh juice and concentrate production.

Marketing season (estimated)



Internal quality

The internal flesh colour of Ray Ruby grapefruit is pink/red when grown in southern Australia, with the centre of the segments often having less colour than the outside of the segments. Internal flesh colour is more intense than established pink varieties Thompson Pink and Ruby Blush. Initial fruit quality assessment for red fleshed grapefruit in southern Australia indicate that achieving a Brix:acid ratio higher than 6:1 is extremely difficult.

External quality

Ray Ruby fruit are similar in external appearance to Ruby Blush grapefruit. Rind develops pink blushes on the peel where fruit touch and are shaded by the tree canopy.

Postharvest performance

Postharvest performance of Ray Ruby grapefruit in Australia is unknown. Fruit grown in tropical and sub-tropical Australia require ethylene de-greening to improve external colouration (blush) of fruit.

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Field performance

Ray Ruby grapefruit is highly productive in tropical, sub-tropical and temperate Australia. Little information currently exists on the field performance of Ray Ruby grapefruit in Australia due to the small scale of plantings. Long-term yield performance under Australian growing conditions is unknown.

Pest and disease

Highly susceptible to the Grapefruit Stem Pitting stain of tristeza. All propagation material supplied by Auscitrus is pre-immunised with a mild strain of tristeza as a protective measure against Grapefruit Stem Pitting. Ray Ruby grapefruit is susceptible to *Alternaria* brown spot under tropical growing conditions. No other specific pest and disease problems have been noted to this point.

Extent of plantings

Minor plantings in Australia. Demand for budwood from Auscitrus has been low.

State of knowledge



Growers should ensure that trees are propagated from Premium budwood obtained from Auscitrus.

Last Revised: November 2002

Disclaimer:

Information contained in this publication is provided as general advice only. For application to specific circumstances, professional advice should be sought.

