

DRIED TREE FRUIT CULTIVAR MATRIX

2024 – 2027 (Jan 2024)



1. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We (organised industry) strive for maximum accessibility to cultivars for all growers.
- We (organised industry) are aiming to minimise the risk for growers when planting new cultivars by striving to increase and standardise the screening of new cultivars and selections throughout industry by making use of the Pro-Hort evaluation sites and being evaluated by Provar.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 There is a requirement to update the dried tree fruit cultivar matrix. There are 2 broad objectives of establishing the matrix.

2.1.1 The first is to provide some broad strategic guidance to breeding programmes & IP owners as to what gaps exist in the pome fruit cultivar profile.

2.1.2 Secondly to guide the Hortgro cultivar evaluation process conducted by Provar.

3. CULTIVAR NEEDS

3.1 DRIED APRICOT CULTIVAR MATRIX (UPDATED 2024)

CRITERIA	REQUIREMENT	IMPORTANCE **(1-5 WITH 5 = CRITICAL)	DEAL BREAKER
External appearance	No blush	5	Yellow
	Oval		
	Bright orange when dried		
Size	Medium to large	4	X-large
Internal quality (taste)	Somewhat sour	4	
	TSS: TA balance	3	
	Soft yet firm	3	
	Full ripe yet no slabs	3	
	TSS 16%+	5	20%
Keeping quality	Minimum 3 weeks in cold storage	5	
Drying quality / ability	Oval shape more suited to mechanical halving	3	Oval
Harvest period	Week 40 - 5	5	Late
Yield	Early, 20 - 30 tonnes, no alternate bearing	4	30 tonnes
	Late, 30+ tonnes, no alternate bearing	4	30 tonnes
Packout %	Should not fall from tree when ripe	3	Hangs
	Defects / cracking / rub marks etc	3	
	No green shoulders	5	Hangs
Chill requirement	Infruited: 300-400	5	300
Other production aspects	Self-pollination requirement	5	
	Bacterial cancer resistance	5	Free
	Drought tolerance; Tolerance to brackish soils		
Pests & diseases	Xanthomonas, Pseudomonas, fruit rots	5	Hardy
New/ niche products	Turkish type sweet apricots with new market possibilities	4	30 tonnes
Dry shelf life	Not lose colour within 1 year if stored well	4	No black
Rootstock affinity	Not only apricot rootstock	3	

** Key: 1 = low; 2 = marginal; 3 = important; 4 = very important; 5 = critical (Deal breaker)

3.2 DRIED NECTARINE CULTIVAR MATRIX (UPDATED 2024)

CRITERIA	REQUIREMENT	IMPORTANCE **(1-5 WITH 5 = CRITICAL)	DEAL BREAKER
External appearance	Colour profile - eg no blush	3	Early
	Roundish appearance	5	Late
	February and later, October - November	5	Yellow
Size	Size requirement		Large
Internal Quality (taste)	Flavour	5	
	TSS:TA balance		
	Texture / flesh colour		
	No split pips, no green shoulders		
	Dry matter (<i>droogverhouding</i>)	4	20%
Keeping quality	2-3 weeks in cold storage	3	4 weeks
Drying quality / ability	Retain form, no pip residues	4	
Harvest period	40 - 12 weeks	4	
Yield	Early – 20-30 tonnes no alternate bearing		
	Late – 30+ tonnes - no alternate bearing		
Packout %	No fruit drop when fully ripe		99%
	No doubles, cuts with ease	5	
Chill requirement	300 - 600 units	4	
	Ultra-high – (300-500 max Infruitec)		
Other production aspects	Self fertile / Self pollinated	5	
	Vigorous, but can be trellised	3	
Pests & diseases	Xanthomonas / Pseudomonas resistant. Limited fruit rots.	5	
New/ niche products	White nectarine	2	

** Key: 1 = low; 2 = marginal; 3 = important; 4 = very important; 5 = critical (Deal breaker)

3.3 DRIED PEACH CULTIVAR MATRIX (UPDATED 2024)

CRITERIA	REQUIREMENT	IMPORTANCE **(1-5 WITH 5 = CRITICAL)	DEAL BREAKER
External appearance	Yellow, no blush that dries with fruit	5	
	Round, big	5	
	No red stone cavities	5	
Size	Large c23 and bigger	4	
Internal Quality (taste)	Tasty with "Elberta" similarity	3	
	TSS: TA balance		
	Firm yet tasty, small pitsize		
	Limited amount of fluff (hair)	4	
	Dry matter (droogverhouding)	5	20%
	Clings	3	22%
Keeping quality	1-3 weeks in cold storage	3	3
Drying quality / ability	No pip residue ('pitreste'), easy cutting	5	
Harvest period	Week 40 - 16	3	
Yield	Early - 40 t/ha	5	
	Late - 45 t/ha	5	60
Packout %	On tree packout (e.g. 80% packout)	4	99%
	Defects / cracking / rub marks etc		
	No doubles, split pips		
Chill requirement	300 - 650 units	4	
Other production aspects	Self fertile / Self pollinated	4	
	Strong tree, vigorous	4	
Pests & diseases	Xanthomonas / Pseudomonas resistant. Limited fruit rots.		
New/ niche products	White flesh cling or desert peach	2	

** Key: 1 = low; 2 = marginal; 3 = important; 4 = very important; 5 = critical (Deal breaker)