

Introduction to the French Riviera Stonefruit Breeding Program



These new stonefruit varieties come from the French stonefruit breeder, **Rene Monteux-Caillet** located in Crau, southern France.

The breeding program covers an area of 25ha (15 ha for hybrid seedlings and 10ha for crop

rotation).

The main principle of the breeding program is the development of a full season series of white and yellow flesh, peach and nectarine variety.

Their focus is on consumer satisfaction based on buying one

type of stonefruit that all look and taste great right throughout the season.

Apricot and cherry breeding has also commenced with several new selections slowly becoming available for trial.

New French Riviera Stonefruit Varieties

The stonefruit varieties from this exciting breeding program in France can be grouped into several categories:

- High chilling white and yellow flesh peaches and nectarines (600-800 chill hours) - easy trained trees, balanced fruit flavour, thick skin, tolerance to brown rot, even fruit size over the whole tree and slow ripening.

“...breeding stonefruit varieties in the hot, humid conditions of southern France has provided selections with tolerance to brown rot and other weather related production problems”

- High chilling white and yellow flesh peaches and nectarines (500-700 chill hours) - early harvest maturity, soft, bal-

anced taste, fibrous flesh, thick skin, even fruit size over the whole tree and slow ripening.

- White and yellow flesh, medium chilling nectarines (400-500 chill hours) - even fruit standard and taste over 1.5 month season.
- White and yellow flesh, low chilling nectarines (350-450 chill hours) - very solid fruit and slow ripening.

Other New Stonefruit Selections

Early apricot selections have produced some selections with red/orange skin and flesh, aromatic apricot taste and firm fruit.



Tenor (Orp 1 cv.)

New apricot selections in the future

may be produced with white flesh.

Red fleshed peaches and nectarines—Some early development work has produced some initial selections of red fleshed peaches and nectarines.

While these selections have both high sugar and acid, they may find a place for consumers who

like full, flavoured stonefruit.



New French Riviera Stonefruit Varieties



Coraline (Monco cv.)
(approx. Bright Princess maturity)
Yellow Peach



Onyx (Monalu cv.)
(approx. Ice Princess maturity)
White Peach



Beryl (Monrose cv.)
(approx. Diamond Pearl maturity)
White Nectarine



Ambre (Monam cv.)
(approx. September Bright maturity)
Yellow Nectarine



Mongros cv. (SF 99-108)

White flesh clingstone peach, matures before Rose Diamond nectarine, large (avg. 68mm, 160g), 11-13 brix with good flavour, even fruit maturity over tree, 2 trays/tree for 3rd leaf trees in Bathurst.

These and several other numbered selections are available for trials. Please contact your preferred ANFIC Nursery to request trees.