

Citrus

Germplasm collection

Citrus germplasm collection started sometimes in 2007 with the aim to rescue and strategize from Citrus Huanglongbing (HLB) devastation in RDC-Wengkhar (Mongar) for the local mandarin. Currently, our center houses all the accessions present in RDC Wengkhar, and also those publicly available varieties from Japan, Australia, India and Thailand. We also have some wild varieties and rare types collected from within the country.

Maintenance / Conservation:

We have also 13 bio-types that are rare and found in backyard and wild. The germplasm are maintained inside insect proof screen house with fabricated drip irrigation system.



Promising varieties

We have 12 varieties currently maintained in Mother Block (RDSC Tsirang) under the insect proof condition.

1. Tsirang local (Altitude 1000 – 1400 masl)
2. Bearslime (below 1100)
3. Key lime (below 1100 masl)
4. Wild lime (below 1500 masl)
5. Ryan orange (1400 masl – processing)
6. Caffeine Clementine (1400 masl – fruits superior in quality similar to local mandarin)
7. Kumquat (ornamental)

Release varieties

Mother plant maintained in disease free status inside insect proof screen house

1. Wengkhar Tshalu 1 (1200 – 1700 masl)
2. Wengkhar Tshalu 2
3. Dorokha selection (800 – 1200 masl)
4. Tarku (500-1200 masl)



Rootstock varieties

1. Trifoliolate
2. Carrizo citrange
3. Volkameriana
4. Cleopatra mandarin
5. Local mandarin
6. Rangpur lime



Varieties under evaluation

1. Washington navel
2. Valencia
3. Encore
4. Mineola
5. Kinnow
6. Clementine
7. Hayaka
8. Fortune
9. Fremont
10. Fingered citron
11. Cara cara
12. Starrubby
13. Amigo mandarin
14. Salustiana orange
15. Torracco ippolite
16. Mc Mohan

Nursery System

Bhutan currently lack proper certified citrus nursery system. Only National Seed Center (Government Organization) is authorized to produce citrus seedlings in awake of Citrus HLB and other graft transmissible diseases and Phytophthora rot.

Currently, Citrus Repository in Tsirang Sub-Center works on the nursery systems in production of disease free seedlings.

