

PREVIEW OF THE SECOND CLONAL SELECTION FROM THE AUTOCHTHONOUS PEACH POPULATION "AMARILLOS TARDÍOS DE CALANDA" (LATE YELLOW PEACHES OF CALANDA)

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The peach fruits from the population "Amarillos Tardíos de Calanda" are characterized by their clingstone flesh, very late ripening, high fruit quality, large size, sweetness and characteristic uniform cream yellow colour.

The paper bagged production of this peach is traditional in the area protected by the Designation of Origin "Melocotón de Calanda" ("Peach of Calanda") and has become very well-known in the Spanish market due to its specific characteristics. The quality of this product is due to a combination of different factors, such as plant material, the interaction with the soil and the climatic conditions of the growing area, as well as the orchard agronomic management.

In an initial field prospection, 11 selections were evaluated and three new cultivars 'Jesca', 'Calante' and 'Evaisa' were released. These cultivars have allowed a more uniform and improved production by the Designation of Origin "Melocotón de Calanda".

After a second field prospection, 19 selections are being evaluated. Five of these genotypes, CAL-2, CAL-4, CAL-1, CAL-11 and CAL-19, are promising cultivar candidates. All these genotypes produce good yields, a large fruit size, with about 70% of fruits of the AAA calibre, flesh firmness around 4-4.5 kg/cm², sub-acid taste, and sweetness around 13 ° Brix.

Recently, a new breeding programme for this peach type has been started, with the main aims of ultrahigh fruit quality, management improvement and an advancement of the ripening season.