



DENOMINATIONS AND SYNONYMS:

(I. Trujillo, D. Barranco, P. Morello)

Blancal, Blanca, Arbequín, Blancal, Blanca, Arbequín, Arbequí, Arbequí,

ORIGIN AND DIFFUSION:

It is the most important variety in Catalonia, where it occupies more than 55,000 ha. It is also widespread in Aragon and, recently, in Andalusia, where it occupies more than 20,000 ha in intensive plantations. Outside Spain it is mainly found in Argentina.

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PURPOSE: Oil

MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISATION:

Tree	Vigour	Weak
	Growth habit	Spreading
	Canopy density	Medium
Leaf blade	Length	Short
	Width	Medium
	Radio length/width	Slightly elongated
	Curvature of longitudinal axis	Recurved
Fruit	Weight	Low
	Radio length/width in position A	Slightly elongated
	Over colour at full maturity	Black
	Symmetry in position A	Symmetric
	Shape of apex in position A	Rounded
	Nipple	Absent or weak
	Shape of base in position A	Truncate
Stone	Ratio length/width	Slightly elongated
	Weight	Low
	Symmetry in position A	Symmetric
	Symmetry in position B	Symmetric
	Number of grooves on basal end	Between 7 and 10
	Distribution of grooves on basal end	Evenly distributed
	Shape of apex in position A	Rounded
	Mucron	Absent
	Shape of base in position A	Rounded
	Rugosity of surface	Medium



MOLECULAR CHARACTERISATION (SSRs)

UDO-43	DCA3	DCA9	DCA16	GAPU-101
175/175	229/241	182/204	122/144	183/205

AGRONOMICAL CHARACTERISATION AND COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This variety has a high rooting capacity. Its vigour is low, which allows it to be used in intensive plantations, with early entry into production and high and constant productivity. It has a medium flowering period and is considered to be self-compatible. Its fruit retention strength is average, but its small size makes mechanical harvesting with a trunk shaker difficult. The oil yield is high, and the quality of its oil is excellent, mainly due to its good organoleptic characteristics, although its stability is low. It is the base variety of the Catalan Denominations of Origin "Les Garrigues" (Lleida) and "Siurana" (Tarragona). It is a variety resistant to cold, tolerant to salinity and susceptible to ferric chlorosis in very chalky soils. It is considered sensitive to fly and verticillium and tolerant to leaf spot.

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