



# Pomegranates for the Dooryard

Karen Stauderman

Horticulture Extension

UF-IFAS, Volusia County

# Origin

- *Scientific Name: Punica granatum L.*
- Native - SE Europe and Asia
- Ancient Egypt, Babylon, India and Iran. Today -Spain
- Missionaries transported them to Mexico
- California in the 16th century



# Why Grow it?

- Loaded with anti-oxidants
- "the most medicinal fruit in the world" (high in thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, vitamins B6, B9, and C, calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium and zinc).
- Fun to grow and eat!

# Climate

- Cool winters and hot, dry summers.
- More cold hardy than citrus
- Vary in frost tolerance (10°F)

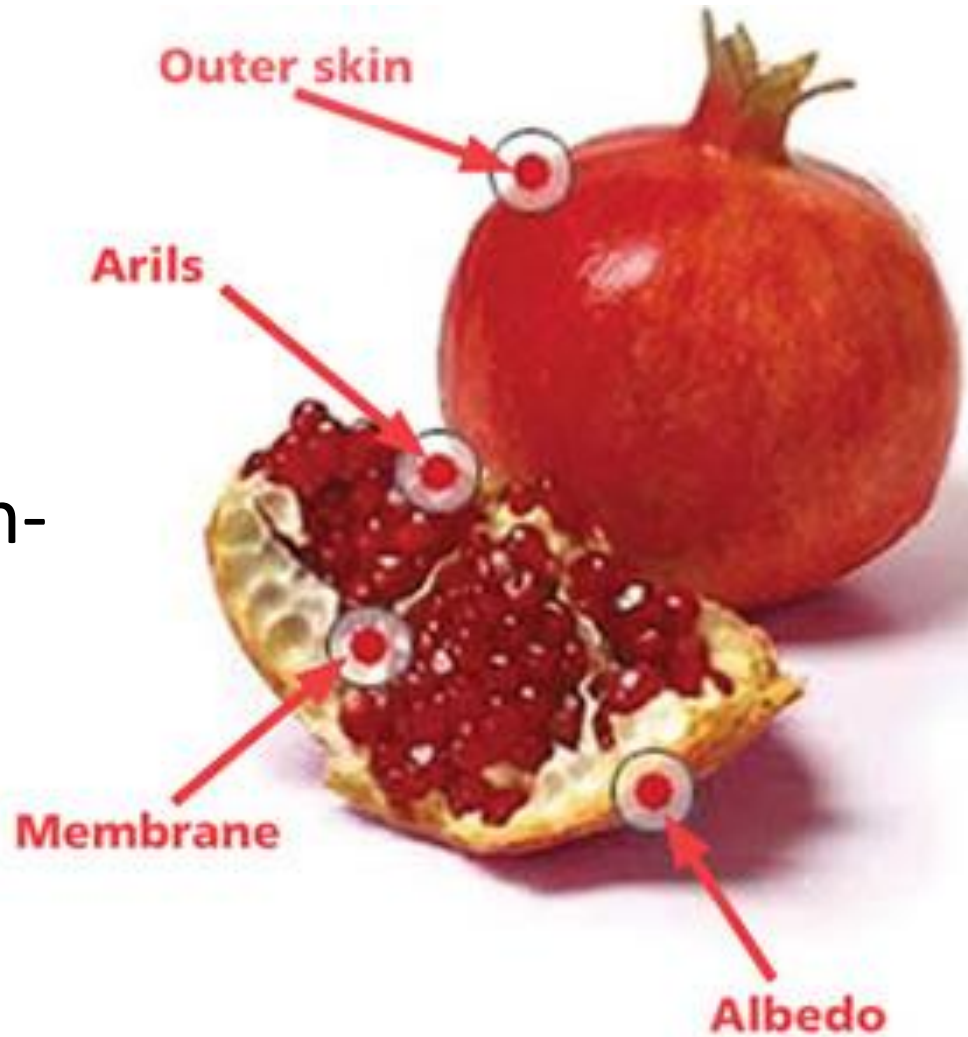
- Tree or shrub form
- Shrub = 6-12' tall
- Tree = 20-30' tall
- Also, an attractive ornamental



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Bill Castle, UF/IFAS/CREC, Lake Alfred

# Flowers & Fruit

- Flowers: Borne singly or in small clusters
- Aril: brownish-yellow to purplish-red
- Fruit: Pink – red





# Propagate

- Hardwood cuttings (winter) 6-8" pencil width
- Cuttings (Feb-Mar)
- Seed propagation not true to type
- Seeds will germinate 45-60 days
- Laying (labor intensive)



# Growing conditions

- Space trees (Feb-Mar) 15-18 ft apart
- Hedge/shrub (sucker) 6-9 ft apart
- Fertilize late August, February, April (8-8-8)
- Over fertilizing delays fruit set, maturity and reduces color of fruit.

# Special Considerations

- Trees are self-fruitful (pollinate themselves)
- Fruit drop caused by
  - Over fertilization
  - Over irrigation
  - Less drop on mature trees

# Pests

- Leaf blotch and fruit spot
  - Copper fungicide 3 times/yr
- Scale Mites
  - Sulfur dusts (early June) and oil sprays in winter



*Cercospora punicae* Henn



*Pseudococcus Callceolariae* (Maskell)

Citrophilus mealybug

Photo courtesy of : Q Holdeman

- Root knot nematode: ***Meloidogyne incognita***.
- ***Cercospora punicae***: leaf spotting, leaf drop, fruit blemishes also caused ***Cercospora sp.*** : Fruit decay
- Bacterial genera ***Botryisphaeria*** and ***Alternaria*** along with others are implicated as sources of fruit rot problems.

Pomegranates in the National  
Clonal Germplasm Repository,  
Davis, California

A very special THANK YOU to  
**Jeff Moersfelder who provided the**  
images.

# Soft Seeded Varieties

**DPUN 0082 'Sin Pepe' (AKA Pink Ice or Pink Satin)**



**Fruit harvested on October 10th**

# Soft Seeded Varieties

- DPUN 0109 'Medovyi Vahsha'
- DPUN 0151 'Sirenevyyi'
- DPUN 0015 'Parfianka'
- DPUN 0125 'Ariana'
- DPUN 0139
- 'Myagkosemyannyi Rosovyyi'



# Med soft – Med seeds (fresh or juice)

- **Wonderful**
- **Purple Heart**
- **Ink**
- **Kara Bala Miursal**





# Med Hard – Hard seed (Juice types)

- **DPUN 0060 ‘Al Sirin Nar’**
- **DPUN 0155 ‘Kara Gul’**



# Ornamental Varieties



Haku Botan



Ki Zakuro



Dotch Legrelley



Toryu Shibori



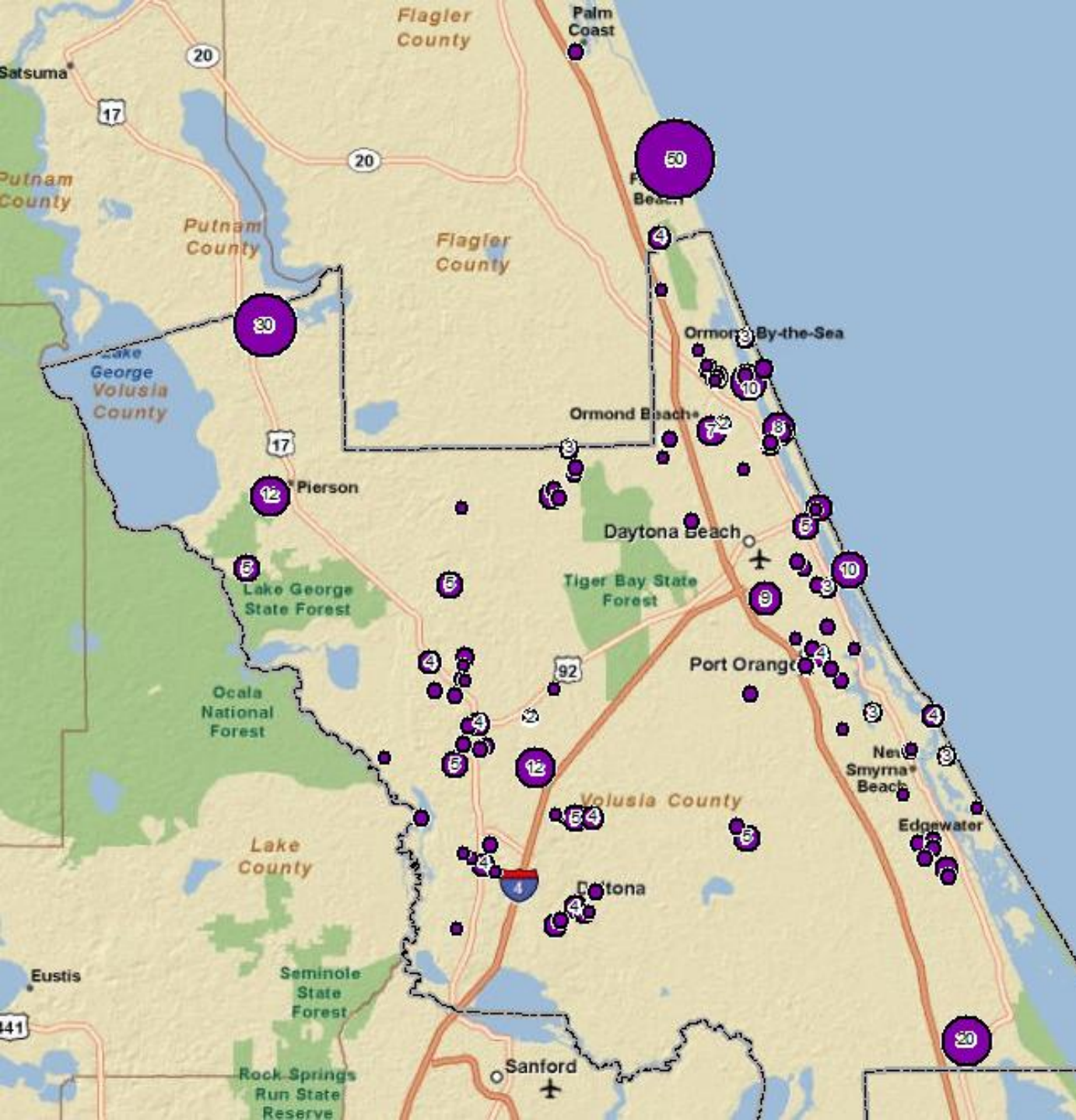
Nochi Shibori



Collected by the National Arboretum from the Shibamichi Nursery in Saitama, Japan in November of 1985. The Davis, NCGR received this accession June of 1990.







Started with 400 trees from 30 different varieties

Orders for 125 more.

- Two Nurseries in production

- Variety test plots

- 3 growers in Volusia for an alternative crop

# Results

- Proceeds went to Volusia County 4-H horticulture Club
- New varieties being tested – Goliath (JD) in Daytona Beach



Variety	# Trees	Av Tree Vigor (0-2)	Av Ht (ft)	Av # Fruit	Av # Flower	Score
Angel Red	2	0.67	4.0	0	0	0.67
Ariana	6	1.50	2.5	0	0	1.50
Asperonski	2	0.00	2.0	0	0	0.00
Azadi	3	1.00	3.2	0	0	1.00
Bala Miursal	1	0.00	0.0	0	0	0.00
Bkusnyi	1	1.00	3.0	0	0	1.00
Don Somner North	2	0.50	4.5	0	0	0.50
Dotch Legrelley	3	0.67	3.3	0	0.33	1.00
Double red/white log 68	3	0.50	4.3	0	0	0.50
<b>Dwarf</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>10.51</b>
Fleischman	4	0.67	3.9	0	0	0.67
Girkanets	14	1.08	2.2	0	0	1.08
Gissarskii Rozovyi	1	0.50	5.5	0	0	0.50
<b>Hydranar x Kirmizy Kabuh</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>8.42</b>
Kasmir Blend	1	0.67	3.5	0	0	0.67
Ki Zakuro	5	0.56	3.2	0	0	0.56
King Log 79	1	0.00	0.5	0	0	0.00
Knuduzski	2	1.00	2.8	0	0	1.00
Lost	24	1.09	1.5	0.25	0.33	1.67
Myagkosemyannyi rosovyi	5	0.77	2.6	0	0	0.77
Nochi Shibori	11	0.79	3.1	0	0	0.79
Parfianka	2	1.00	2.8	0	0	1.00
Purple Heart	3	0.67	3.7	0	0	0.67
Red Silk	1	0.50	4.0	0	0	0.50
Sweet #32	3	1.00	2.2	0	0	1.00
Sweet #84	3	1.00	3.5	0	0	1.00
Treehouse Vietnam	2	1.00	2.0	0	1	2.00
Uksnyi	4	1.00	2.4	0	0	1.00
Vkusnyi Log #35	3	0.75	3.3	0	1.67	2.42
WEO 42 Log 70	4	0.62	2.5	0	0	0.62
<b>Yori Shibori</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5.00</b>

## Volusia County Variety Results after first year

- Initially sold 400 trees
- 146 accounted for (36.5%)
- 57/108 clients response rate (52.7%)
- 16 reported dead (9.1%)
- 43 lost or missing tags (29.4%)

# Special thanks

- Dr. William Castle, UF Professor Emeritus
- Citrus Research and Education Center, Horticultural Science  
Lake Alfred, Florida

- UF Pomegranate Website

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/pomegranates/>