

# 'Australian Blood<sup>®</sup>' lime

## *Citrus hybrid*



'Australian Blood<sup>®</sup>' lime (also known as 'Australian Red Centre') was selected from an open-pollinated seedling population grown from seeds of an acid mandarin for which the pollen parent was assumed to be a seedling of a finger lime (*Citrus australasica*).

### *Description and Use*

The skin, flesh and juice are blood red in colour and the flavour is relatively acidic. Fruits are lime shaped and 20-30mm wide. Fruit are usually traded as whole, frozen. The rind, flesh and juice are red. Used in a variety of sweet and savoury dishes. The fruit can be used in a range of value-added products such as marmalades, preserves, syrups, juices, beverages and sauces.

### *Quality requirements*

- The colour should be uniformly blood red.
- Ensure fruit has reached maturity before picking.
- The skin should be free from blemishes.
- Broken skin and thorn punctures in fruit are not acceptable.
- Spined Citrus bug (*Biprorulus bibax*) can reduce fruit quality.
- Packaged product should be free from foreign matter.



## *Postharvest handling*

- Packed fruit can suffer from skin breakdown and produce sour rot.
- Fruit should be refrigerated as soon as possible after harvest and should preferably be frozen within 24 hours of harvest.
- Fruit can be kept in low temperature storage (freezer -20°C) for up to 24 months.
- Store sealed hygienically in food grade polyethylene bags or sealed plastic containers. Better storage and shipping performance can be obtained from polyester or metallized polyester (112 micron) bags.
- Packaged product should preferably be labelled with common and botanical names, date, area of harvest and harvester details.
- Foods Standards Australia New Zealand <http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/> has information related to food standards and food safety (see Guide to the new Food Standards Code).
- If microbiological testing of produce is required, contact the local state authority (e.g. Department of Health) for guidance on accessing test laboratories.



Australian Government  
Rural Industries Research and  
Development Corporation

Industry participants are thanked for their assistance in the preparation of this information sheet

**Disclaimer:** To the extent permitted by law, the agencies & institutions named above (including their employees and consultants) exclude all liability to any person for any consequences, including but not limited to all losses, damages, costs, expenses and any other compensation, arising directly or indirectly from using this publication (in part or in whole) and any information or material contained in it.

