Revised Tangerine/Mandarin Classifications

New Definition of Seedless
In order to be marketed as a seedless tangerine or mandarin, the fruit shall have five (5) seeds or less in a random sample of not less than twenty-five (25) pieces of fruit sampled. Up to three (3) twenty-five (25) piece samples of fruit may be averaged in order to meet the required seed count.

New Definition of Low Seeded
In order to be marketed as a low-seeded tangerine or mandarin, the citrus fruit shall have an average of two (2) seeds or less per fruit in a random sample of not less than twenty-five (25) pieces of fruit and no one piece of fruit in the twenty-five (25) fruit sampled shall contain more than four (4) seeds. Up to three (3) twenty-five (25) piece samples of fruit may be averaged in order to meet the required seed average.

Market Classification of Mandarin
The market classification of “Mandarin” shall be interchangeable with “Tangerine” provided:

- The “Mandarin” shall meet either the “seedless” or “low-seeded” definitions

Tangerines
- Tangerines can be:
  - Tangerines
  - “Low Seeded Tangerines”
  - “Seedless Tangerines”
- Mandarins are by definition low-seeded or seedless.
- Tango, Orri, US Early Pride, W. Murcott, Osceola and Lee are now in this category.
- Nova was discussed but not accepted.

Packing Issues
- All of these newly classified varieties will be required to meet maturity standards
- The CAC has not established size and grade for these. This does present an opportunity for higher packouts on the low seeded easy peelers.
- If you claim a grade – you must meet the grade
More packing issues

• 1. 20-35.001 (2) states “all” fruit must be graded...meaning, it does not have to meet a certain grade but has to have a "Florida" grade, USDA grade etc. or grade of some sort readily identifiable.
• If the approved container has a "registered" label, only fruit which will meet the grade that label represents will be permitted to be placed therein.
• Sugar Belle remains unclassified and would need to be ID’d as such

More Information:

Fdocgrower.com
Legal Tab
“Rules”
Chapter 20-13