Laser etching, a future tool for Citrus labeling

Ed Etcheberria

Produce are labeled following the Price-look-up (PLU) system. Four digit ID code. Traceback component – aimed at identifying source and transfer links to retail marketing. Additional information.

Adhesive Tags
- Detachable
- Tag build up in packing line
- Special Storage Rooms
- Permanent print

Labeling with low energy Carbon dioxide laser beam
- Permanent
- Labeling information changed quickly
- Clean
- No storage needed
Tomato Clip Assorted Demo

Tomato Clip

Tomato and Avocado

Close-up of laser etching hole

Broken cuticle

Exposed cavity

Dot matrix print
Future work on Citrus

- Prevent dehydration
- Prevent mold
- Enhance appeal
- Optimize laser energy
- Timing of wax application