

Baboons discover new citrus fruit in W.Cape

Jan 12, 2011 10:50 AM | By Sapa

A troop of baboons has inadvertently discovered a new citrus cultivar for a farmer in the Western Cape.





Initially....

Eucalyptus grandis =
Corymbia torelliana

3 years later....

Eucalyptus grandis
Corymbia torelliana



Growth and Development?

- C.t. somewhat slower than E.g.
- 8-16 ft. in 1st year, less afterwards.
- 20 – 30 ft. height after 3 years.
- How tall?



36 ft.

Cold Tolerance?

Windward side

- Leaf burn
- No leaf drop
- Little branch damage



Leeward side
BEAUTIFUL!

Eucs have
been okay
so far this
winter, too!

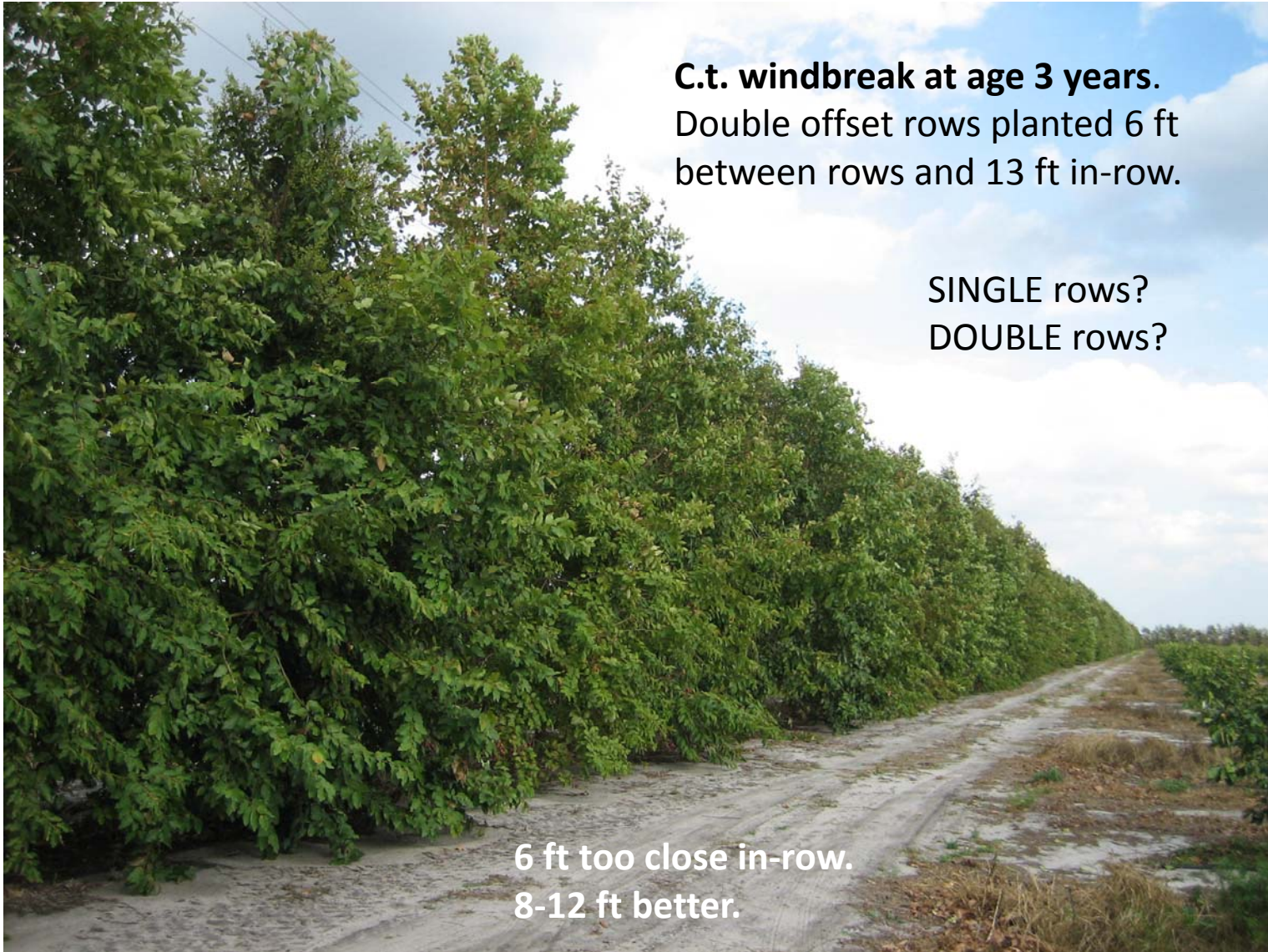
Spacing?

C.t. windbreak at age 3 years.
Double offset rows planted 6 ft
between rows and 13 ft in-row.

SINGLE rows?
DOUBLE rows?

6 ft too close in-row.
8-12 ft better.

Eucs in
single or
double
rows, 6 ft
in-row.



Root Growth?



Canopy Management?



See the striped marking tape?

3-yr-old C.t.
hedged in
2nd yr.

Do WBs work: An inside view



6th bed east of the windbreak

(Photos from a 20-acre block surrounded with a C.t. windbreak. Lower temps within the block were not experienced.)

Bed adjacent to the windbreak



Other Considerations....

- Plant size, site preparation.
- Both factors affect WB uniformity.
- Planting a single row? Grow a few extra plants to fill gaps later.
- Plant uniformity, i.e., genetic variability?





New Eucs from Dr. Rockwood

G1, G2, G3: after 18 months @ Water Conserv, average ht – 20 to 23 ft.



Summary Comparison

Contest

- Growth
- **Branching** (key factor)
- Cold tolerance
- Spacing
- No. rows
- Root growth_(drop pipe)
- WB establishment
- Genetic uniformity

Winner

- *E. grandis*
- *C. torelliana*
- C.t. = E.g. ?
- C.t. 8-12 ft; E.g. 6 ft
- C.t.-1,2; E.g. 2
- Not problematic?
- *C. torelliana*
- C.t. = E.g.

Thanks to.....

Cody Estes and Jim Hoffman, *Estes Citrus*

Tom Stopyra, *Packers of Indian River*

Kevin Bynum and Doug Schobert, *Premier Citrus*

Mike Monroe, *SunAg*

bcastle@ufl.edu