

SARDI – Cherry Breeding Program

Sweet Cherry Selection Descriptors

‘Dame Nancy’

South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI)
Lenswood Centre

‘Dame Nancy’ is a quality mid-season, fresh market white cherry variety featuring resistance to rain cracking and large size.

General Information

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Parentage: | Stella x Stella |
| Fruit size: | Large to extremely large |
| Shape: | Kidney |
| Skin: | Vermillion on yellow |
| Flesh: | White |
| Eating quality: | Fair to good |
| Stone size: | Intermediate |
| Cropping: | Intermediate |
| Pollination: | Self-fertile |
| Maturity: | Mid-Season (22 nd Dec) |
| TSS level: | 18% |
| Firmness: | Firm |
| Stem length | Medium (30-40mm) |
| Full Bloom: | Mid season (7 th Oct) |
| Rain cracking: | Slightly susceptible |



The purpose of this Descriptor Guide is to provide interested parties with the information required to make an informed decision on the planting of ‘Dame Nancy’. Trees of ‘Dame Nancy’ are available commercially through ANFIC nurseries. ‘Dame Nancy’ is protected under Provisional Plant Breeders Rights; a signed non-propagation agreement is required prior to delivery. All data presented in this guide refers to trees grown at the Lenswood Research Centre. Commercial plantings throughout the Australia are currently yielding and information that may be more relevant to particular localities may be available from other growers or local nurseries. SARDI has limited data on the compatibility and performance of ‘Dame Nancy’ on different rootstocks some of which will be untested.

Characteristics Matures mid-season, shows intermediate cropping efficiency, has an upright growth habit and strong tree vigour. Fruit size is large to extremely large, averaging 11.5 grams and 99.5% of fruit sampled had a diameter greater than 25 millimetres. Fruit is kidney shaped. Fruit skin colour is vermillion on a yellow ground colour. The flesh of the fruit is white. Eating quality of the fruit is fair to good (sugars 18%, acid 3.9). The fruit are firm and slightly susceptible to cracking in an average rainfall year (2% cracks). Fruit stalk length is 30-40mm. Stone size is intermediate, 10-15 mm long. The variety is self-fertile (Source: www.sardi.sa.gov.au/pages/hort/breeding/cherries).

Origin and Breeding Controlled pollination: seed parent ‘Stella’ x pollen parent ‘Stella’. Both the seed and the pollen parent are characterised by medium maturing, medium firmness, large, dark red skin coloured fruit with high susceptibility to rain induced cracking and self-compatibility.

For further information please contact:

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