

## Alborán, a new variety of chirimoya (*Anona cherimola*) for of-season production

CSIC, together with IFAPA, has cultivated a new variety of chirimoya (*Annona cherimola* Miller) that produces a fruit of excellent quality during the winter and spring months.

Nurseries interested in the multiplication and production are being sought to collaborate through a new variety licence agreement.

### An offer for New Variety Licensing

#### Chirimoya

Chirimoya is a subtropical fruit of American origin with a clear zone of expansion in the temperate Mediterranean climates. On the Mediterranean coast of Andalucía, chirimoya usually flower from May to July, but with proper management techniques (mainly pruning, done at the right time) flowering can be delayed for several months and the main production of the crop can be changed to the winter and spring months.

The production of custard apples in Spain is concentrated in a single variety ('Fino de Jete'). This dependence on a single crop causes commercial problems (excessive concentration of supply on some specific dates) and agronomic problems (crop management). Therefore, the sector of Spanish custard apple production needs to diversify with other varieties with good fruit quality, from October to May.

To meet this demand, the CSIC and IFAPA have raised a new variety of this crop, Alborán, which produces excellent quality fruits during the winter and spring months.



Chirimoya fruit (*Annona cherimola* Miller)

#### Main innovations and advantages

- Excellent organoleptic quality during the winter and spring months, mainly from December to April.
- The Low seed index compared to the most important variety in Spain, 'Fino de Jete'.
- Loose seeds compared to the most important variety in Spain, 'Fino de Jete', which present the seeds difficult to separate from the pulp of the fruit.
- High density of flower that facilitates manual pollination, necessary for a good performance outside of its native distribution range.

#### New Variety Status

New variety title has been granted

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