

Natural hybrids of citrus and their importance in horticulture

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For a long time, some natural factors such as wind and insects, have acted like a breeder and produced abundant citrus. It is clear that all of plants have spent a large time for reaching this situation and using of science and technology, human is counting this procedure to day.

Since most commercial cultivars of citrus have polyembryonic characteristic and their seedlings are nucellar, in seed culture method most of these seedlings are similar to their parents (65%-75%) and only 15%-25% of them are produced from egg cell and show genetic segregation. These seedlings which are produced from egg cell, are called "natural hybrids".

There are many of these natural hybrids that have suitable characteristics (such as, resistance to tristeza virus) in different parts of our country.