

# WAX ON POMEGRANATES

Fruit2U Packers

# WHERE DID IT BEGIN?

Since we wax citrus:

- to enhance the cosmetic appearance
- to protect against mold
- to minimize moisture/weight loss

- ◉ **Why not wax pomegranates then for the same reasons?**

and

- ◉ Certain USA companies wax pomegranates
- ◉ Improve color with red wax? (working on it)
- ◉ Maybe get rid of expensive bags?
- ◉ Mix fludioxonil/fungicide into wax?

# HOW DO WE DO IT?

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- Tip the fruit
- Fludioxonil bath (heated)
- Hot air tunnel (drying)
- Wax application in wax/brush unit with CARNAUBA WAX
- Hot air tunnel (wax curing)
- Grading and Packing
- Cold Storage

# PROBLEMS OR CHALLENGES

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- ◉ Only Carnauba Wax for now
- ◉ No effective waxing of crown area
- ◉ Must wax all tipped fruit at most plants
- ◉ No proper scientific studies on effects

# TESTIMONIALS

Our own tests over 8 week period indicated:

1. Less moisture loss
2. Seems that molds/decay does not spread
3. Appearance better

Positive comments from certain markets on arrivals

Waxed fruit stored for late processing seems to store better than not waxed fruit

# COSTS!!

- Roughly R0,04 per kilogram or R0,16 per box



QUESTIONS?