

The dried Fruit Industry's approach to New varieties and Plant Improvement thereof

Dappies Smit

Dried Fruit Technical Services

22 April 2010



Focus

- More traditional than fresh fruit – colors, shape, sizes and tastes
- High yield
- Disease resistance
- Low cost
- Date of ripening
- TSS, composition (health)



Where do drying varieties come from?

- ARC Breeding program
- Other programs
- Imports
- Ongoing process of replacement



Evaluation

- Time
- Screening (phase I, II)
- Semi-commercial – regions – cost



Plant Improvement

- Plant improvement / semi-commercial evaluation
- Registered material,
 - nucleus, foundation, mother.
- Risk
- Availability
 - growers
 - nurseries

