Optimizing Density
Approach

- 2012 & 2013: 8’x20’ – 272 Trees Per Acre
- 2014 – 2017: 8’x18’ – 303 Trees Per Acre

- Test Blocks:
  - 2015: 8’x15’ – 363 Trees Per Acre
  - 2016: 4' x 8' (x 18') = 495 Trees Per Acre
Rationale for High Density:

- Trees have shorter life span in Endemic HLB Environment
- Pipeline of Improved Plant Material
- High Price Environment
- Success is Yield Dependent!
Research:

• Higher Density Plantings for Florida Citrus

• Citrus Fruit Spacing and Yield

• The Citrus Grove of the Future

• Citrus Tree Spacing
  • IFAS Fact Sheet HS-143, June 1994
Incentives:

• USDA Tree Assistance Program
• FDACS Citrus Grove Renovation Support Program
• Packer / Processor Incentives
• High Prices
Navels Planted July 2012: 8’x20’
Midsweet Planted July 2012: 8’x20’
Midsweet Production History:

• Year 2 (2014/15): 91 boxes / acre
• Year 3 (2015/16): 220 boxes / acre
• Year 4 (2016/17): 314 boxes / acre
Valencias Planted April 2013:  8’x20’
Valencia Production History:

• Year 3 (2015/16): 191 boxes / acre
• Year 4 (2016/17): 319 boxes / acre
Navels Planted August 2013:  8’x20’
Early Pride Planted November 2013: 8’x20’
Valencia / US942  Planted March 2015:  8’x18’
Test Block Planted April 2015
8’x15’ - 363 Trees Per Acre
Test Block – Tram Design
4' x 8' (x 18') = 495 Trees Per Acre
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