



**AL's Family Farms**

P.O. Box 650808 • Vero Beach FL 32965

[www.AlsFamilyFarms.com](http://www.AlsFamilyFarms.com)

Toll Free: 1-800-544-3366

Fax: 1-772-466-5826

Greetings from Florida:

What a Honeybell season 2021 has already been!

Growers throughout Florida were all shocked and surprised to report a much lower *harvestable*, Honeybell crop than we expected. Due to more rainfall from October through November than our growing region has ever seen, our beloved Honeybell trees in Florida are currently yielding half the crop of packable fruit as compared to last year's.

*(In just one day in November we received more rainfall than the entire month's average.)*

After reading some of the gift cards in the boxes we're shipping that say things like "Love from Florida," or "Enjoy this box of sunshine from Florida", it appeared obvious to us that our customers demand Fresh from Florida only. Our family discussed how best to handle this season's Honeybell shortage, and considered several options:

We recognized the fact, we needed to follow through and ship out all Honeybell packages since so many senders intended them as Holiday gifts for arrival in January. Many recipients already received a gift announcement by mail indicating future arrival of their Honeybell gifts in January. We also felt we needed to ship the exact size package you requested since many recipient's are accustomed to receiving a certain number of fruit trays each year and we wanted there to be enough fresh citrus for large families or clients.

**We also realized with only half our normal crop ready to harvest, we would need to substitute a portion of those Honeybell packages with another variety of citrus that had to compare in appeal and good taste to the Honeybells.** We wish we had enough human resources available to contact all those who ordered but the customer list was too long and harvesting window too short to make that happen in time. While Florida grown Glory Orri Mandarins certainly don't look like a Honeybell, we believe they are just as delicious.

*Note: This is actually the first time in our history we've ever had to act on the dreaded 'we deserve the right to substitute' provision in our catalog but I hope it explains why a portion of your package contains Glory Orris in addition to the Honeybells.*

**After shipping Florida's finest citrus for over 40 years we simply had to stay true to Florida.** That is what was ordered, right? Matt Schorner (Al's grandson) said it best: "*Dad, I didn't study four years to earn my degree in citrus just to move back to the family farm and start packing California fruit. What's the point? They can get western fruit in a supermarket.*"

We appreciate your understanding and hope that next year our Florida Honeybell trees will produce the crop we have had in decades past so we can once again send them in full boxes. Thank you again for supporting our small, family business who strives to send you only the best.

May God bless you with the gift of good health,

The Schorner Family, Owners  
Al's Family Farms