

**OH 550/23 - Interview with Vern and Fay Hallam**

**TAPE 3, SIDE A - Quality of the trees**

**So we talked a little bit about the planting last time. I wondered what the quality of the trees and citrus and vines and whatever you were planting initially was like in those days?**

**Vern** Very, very, what shall I say, diverse. Spike Spurling was the, he was only a young fellow then, he was the Agricultural Adviser here and he said "Right these trees are no good" and he culled them out and he would send them back. I mean some of the trees were so small they would be buried in one night with a sand storm. And he said they are not going to make trees and he just put them aside and sent them back and a great furore occurred when that happened, but generally speaking the trees were of a reasonable standard and so were the vines but the bud lines were poor I thought. I was one of these trusting types and I got all the trees I could from a Departmental source. Well it was – no I had better not say it, but anyway it was a Departmental source and even though they were far smaller trees I thought they would have the top bud line and they turned out to be an utter failure. My citrus trees would have been the poorest cropping trees in the area.