

Commercial cultivation of Java apple (*Syzygium samarangense*) in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu – A case study

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Abstract

Syzygium samarangense is a new crop to Dharmapuri district. The case study is undertaken to study the economic feasibility of cultivation of Java apple. The study showed that the crop is economical at the three years of age with minimal input and labour requirement. Further studies needed for large scale promotion

Objectives

- To study the feasibility and economic viability of cultivation of Java apple (*Syzygium samarangense*) in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu

Acknowledgment

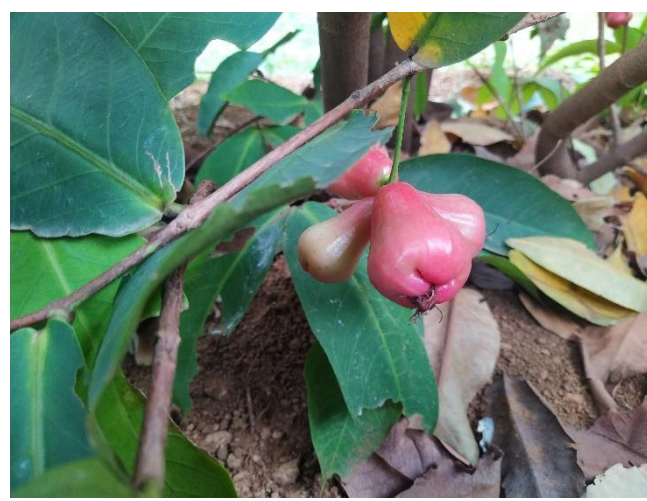
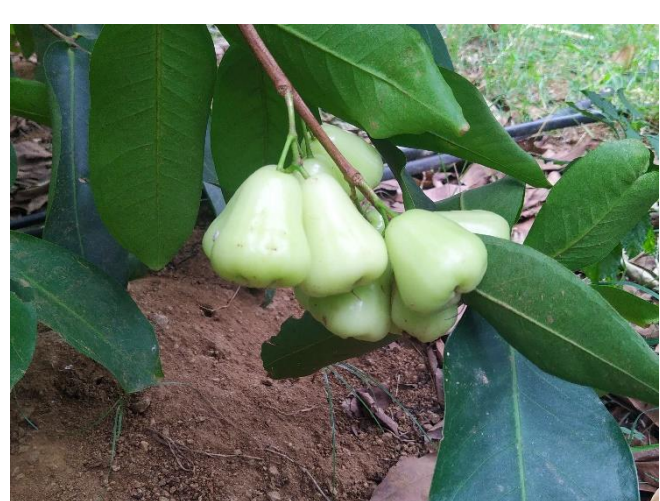
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Introduction

- Java apple (*Syzygium samarangense*) - tropical plant
- India, Srilanka and Pacific islands
- Indian states viz. Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka
- Commercial cultivation is meagre.
- Dharmapuri district - northern part of Tamil Nadu - dry tract with tropical climate.
- Cultivation of Java apple is very experimental - presence is very rare even as a specimen tree in that locality

Materials and Methods

- The case study was done at the Digilodu village (peenagaram Taluk, Dharmapuri District)
- It is a study about a single farmer
- The study site has 100 numbers of trees
- Age of the orchard - 3 years.
- Spacing - 4.5 x 4.5 m
- Crop is under drip irrigation
- Collection - cultivation details, cost involved from field preparation to marketing, production and marketing constraints



Result and Discussion

- Initial establishment cost - ₹. 35000 / ha
- Bearing form the second year.
- Harvesting - December to April ; Average yield per tree was 55.0 kg.
- Average farm gate price - unripe and ripe fruits - ₹. 70.00 and ₹. 80.00
- Incidence of pest and disease
- Harvesting - easy that a woman about can harvest 150.0 kg per hour.
- BCR - 10:1 in the third year.
- Problems – Shelf life is poor Similar report on Malay apple (*Syzygium malaccense*) - short shelf-life - limits possibilities for commercialization (<https://www.fao.org/3>).
- poorly understood production parameters, variable quality of harvested fruits with lack of distinctive cultivars, short shelf life of fruits (Griffins *et al.* 2013)
- Industrial applications - very specific postharvest technology, strategic planning - production, processing and marketing are integrally linked Williams and Hag, 2002).

Conclusion

- Since Bengaluru market nearby the scope for the cultivation of Java apple in Dharmapuri district seems successful
- Quantitative aspects of yield and superior selection of clones
- Shelf life and marketing potential

References

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