



Citrus facts

North-East India is a treasure house of citrus genetic diversity and presence of 23 species, one subspecies and 68 varieties are reported from this region. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve of East Garo hills in Meghalaya is identified as "Citrus Gene Sanctuary", only one of its kind in the World. This biosphere reserve is also recognized by UNESCO. NEH region is a home of citrus.

Citrus production in India increased from 0.82 million tonnes to 12.5 million tonnes and area increased from 90 thousand to 1009 thousand ha between 1961 to 2017-18 recording 1500% growth in production and 1100% growth in area. Citrus is grown in 26 States.

Total 139.8 million tonne of citrus production constitutes 56.86% sweet orange, 25.72% mandarin, 10.86% lime/lemon and 6.56% grapefruit/pummelo/others

With 12.5 million tonnes India ranks third after China and Brazil in world in overall citrus production, but ranks first in production of limes and lemons.

Indian citrus industry is worth Rs.31250 crores annually on the basis of raw fruit alone.

Nearly 4-5% fruit is processed while rest is consumed fresh

(Source: ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute, Nagpur)

