

# Innovative Techniques for Horticulture Developments

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# Released Fruit Varieties and Hybrids in India

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*“No one can reap the fruit before planting the trees.”*

**Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva**

*“The trees that are slow to grow bear the best fruit”*

**Moliere**

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## **Introduction**

India is the second largest producer of fruits next to China and accounts for 13.60 per cent of the total world production of fruits. It leads the world in the production of mango, banana, papaya, sapota and acid lime besides recording highest productivity in grape.

Fruits play an important role in human diet by providing food and nutritional security. The food security is complex term and for food security, crop diversity is essential not only for production but also for continuous supply of raw material needed for future breeding programme. Crop diversity allows farmers and researchers to develop high yielding variety with improved quality characteristics as required by consumers. To develop nutraceutical rich variety along with biotic and abiotic stresses resistance, crop diversity is essential.

Majority of the fruit crops are perennial in nature and require very careful selection of trait specific varieties. The technological developments in varietal improvement by different ICAR institutes and state agricultural universities resulted in development of