



Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

**SEMINAR
ON
REVIVAL AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
OF
COORG MANDARINS**



7th MAY 1999
GONIKOPPAL, KODAGU



COORG MANDARIN PRODUCTION - PROBLEMS, PROSPECTS AND FUTURE STRATEGIES

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INTRODUCTION

An unique ecotype of mandarin popularly known as "Coorg Mandarin" is under cultivation in Coorg, Hassan and Chikamagalur districts of Karnataka. In Coorg, specially, the crop appears to be in existence for more than a century. The cultivation is spontaneous and traditional, characterised by exclusive use of seedlings as a shade crop for the coffee plants, although, in recent years use of budded plants is on increase. The crop is largely grown as a rainfed crop and is mixed planted with coffee. The Coorg mandarin plants are vigorous, upright with dense canopy and with or without thorns.

The reputed Coorg conditions; two crops viz., summer and monsoon are produced. Summer crop is important in respect of yield, quality and also value of commerce is harvested during Dec-Feb. The monsoon crop, which is little consequence as it does not ripen properly and is of poor quality. This crop is harvested from June-Aug and fetches poor returns.

The Central Horticultural Experiment Station at Chettali was established as one of the main centres under the Citrus dieback scheme in 1954 under the state government. It was transferred to ICAR in 1972 under the administrative control of Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore. The station concentrated research work on various aspects of crop production and the technology generated through research in respect of healthy plant material, suitable rootstocks, nutrition, cropping systems, weed control and crop protection are available to the mandarin growers of this region to adopt and practice.

PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

In recent years, due to the nature of cropping system and sub-optimal management practices, Coorg mandarin cultivation in the region is under considerable biotic stress either by fungal or viral or greening diseases. The common problems faced by the growers is that the Coorg mandarin plants bear fruits during first few years and later the general health of