

## Quadrant II – Notes

**Programme:** B. Sc. (Hons.) Agri.

**Subject:** Horticulture

**Course Code:** HORT- 232

**Course Title:** Production Technology for Vegetables and Spices

**Module Name:** Production technologies of spices: Nutmeg

**Module No:** 17

**Name of the Presenter:** Gourish Karanjalker

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**Notes :**

### **Production technologies of spices: Nutmeg**

- ☐ B.N: *Myristica Fragrans* Family: Myristicaceae
- ☐ Kerala has 98% production of Nutmeg
- ☐ Oleoresin from mace used widely in flavoring industries
- ☐ Oils in food products and liquors
- ☐ Pericarp in jam, jelly and pickles

#### **Soil and climate**

- Friable, well drained clay to red soils is suitable
- Elevation 1000 m
- 150 - 250 cm of rainfall
- humid tropical climate
- Ideal temperature 25-30°C
- Soil should be rich in organic matter and micronutrients

#### **Important varieties**

- ❖ Konkan Sugandha
- ❖ Konkan Swad
- ❖ Konkan Shrimanti
- ❖ Viswashree
- ❖ Kerala Shree

### **Propagation and planting**

- ☐ Seed and grafting (epicotyl)
- ☐ Season: onset of rainy seasons
- ☐ 12-18 months old seedling or graft
- ☐ Spacing: 2.7x2.7 m
- ☐ Land preparation, planting in pits (75cm<sup>3</sup>)
- ☐ Irrigation: 4-5 days
- ☐ Manure and fertilizers: 18:30:50 Kg NPK/tree during initial stages 500:250:100 NPKg/tree
- ☐ Weeding
- ☐ Dioeciousness is observed in nutmeg hence maintain the ratio of male and female plants

### **Harvesting and yield**

- 6<sup>th</sup> year of age
- 9 months after flowering
- June-August
- Fruit ripens and splits open
- Nuts and mace separated and dried
- Packed in polybags
- Yield: 800 kg nutmeg and 100 kg mace per ha

## Diseases

- ☐ Dieback (*Diplodia natalensis*): drying of branches: apply Bordeaux paste after pruning
- ☐ Fruit rots (*Phytophthora* spp.): splitting of fruit and rotting, spray 1% Bordeaux mixture
- ☐ Thread blight (*Marasmius* sp.): affects stems spray 1% Bordeaux mixture
- ☐ *Loranthus*: affects growth of the plant. Prune the parasite and paint with Bordeaux paste

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