

POMEGRANATE

**PRODUCTION PROGRAMME
FOR
POMEGRANATE (1998-2005)**

Ministry of Agriculture & Lands – 1997

PRODUCTION PROGRAMME FOR POMEGRANATE

by

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Production Programme for Pomegranate 1998 – 2005

1.0 Introduction:

Pomegranate is a popular fruit in Sri Lanka. The best quality fruits are produced in areas with cool and dry climates during the year. The annual production was about 2000 mt. in 1996 and the cultivated area was approximately 200 ha. The average yield is about 10 mt/ha. and per capita availability was estimated to be around 0.1 kg/yr/person. During past few years, imports of pomegranate has significantly increased.

2.0 Demand and Supply

The demand for pomegranate was estimated based on the per capita availability level in 1996. Per capita availability expected to be increased from 0.1 kg/yr in 1996 up to 0.2 kg/yr in year 2005. To satisfy the expected demand, the production of pomegranate will be increased up to 3300 mt. in year 2005. The average yield of pomegranate is anticipated to increase from 10 mt/ha up to 12 mt/ha. The production levels, target extent and expected yield are presented in table 1.

3.0 Planned Strategies to Increase Pomegranate Production

The pomegranate production would be increased mainly by

- (a) increasing extent of cultivation
- (b) Introducing new cultivars
- (c) Increase quality planting material productions
- (d) Research & Development

3.1 Increasing extent of cultivation

At present pomegranate cultivation is restricted mostly to dry zone districts such as Hambantota, Jaffna, Puttalam, Anuradhapura and Monaragala. Under the production programme pomegranate cultivation will be promoted in Matale, Galle, Mannar, Vauniya, Ampara and Polonnaruwa districts. The target extents

to be cultivated in different districts are presented Table 2. These targets are estimated based on the Agricultural Implementation programme for 1996 and the information of the Task Force on Fruits. Further to that extension programme to promote the pomegranate as home garden crop will be implemented.

3.2 Introduction of New Varieties:

Low productivity is to be removed through introduction of high yielding varieties. Introduction of exotic hybrids from India and Pakistan, selection of local cultivars are two major activity suggested under this programme to increase productivity.

3.3 Planting Materials Production

A specific programme for planting material production has developed and it is presented in table 3. Involvement of the private nurserymen in quality planting material production is expected to increase overtime. The additional fruits requirement on these activities is presented in table 4.

3.4 Research & Development

Introduction of exotic cultivars is a main item of this production programme. Selection of high yielding varieties under local condition is one of the main research area to be implemented. In order to assess the potential of local cultivars collection and evaluation of local germplasm is suggested. Research on control of pest(fruit fly) & disease(Antharxnose) is a priority area of the programme. The additional funds requirement on these research activities is given in table 4.

4. Estimated Budget

The additional funds required for the implementation of proposed research, extension and planting material production programmes are presented in table 4.

Table 1. Projected targets of Extent, Production, Yield and Planting material Requirements

Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total extent needed (ha)	220	220	226	241	262	276	276	276
Annual production (mt)	2420	2530	2717	2896	3142	3307	3309	3311
Expected yield (mt/ha)	11	11.5	12	12	12	12	12	12
Planting material requirement (000)	42	18	26	37	46	39	23	23

Identified districts: Hambantota, Jaffna, Puttalam, Amradhapura, Moneragala.

Potential districts: Matale, Galle, Mannar, Vavuniya, Baticaloa, Ampara, Polonnaruwa, Kilinochchi.

Table 2: Proposed Targets of Area(ha): Pomegranate

Province	District	Present Extent(ha)			Proposed Total Extent(ha)					
		1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Western	Colombo Gampaha Kalutara									
Southern	Galle Matara Hambantota	18	19	19	19	20	22	23	23	23
Uva	Badulla Monaragala	49	51	51	52	56	61	64	64	64
Sabaragamuwa	Ratnapura Kegalle	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	
NWP	Kurunegala Puttalam	39 11	40 11	40 11	42 12	44 13	48 14	51 14	51 14	51 14
Central	Kandy Nuwara Eliya Matale	11 6 2	11 6 2	11 6 2	12 6 2	13 7 2	14 7 3	14 8 3	14 8 3	14 8 8
NCP	Anuradhapura Polonnaruwa	3	8	8	9	9	10	10	10	10
Nothern	Jaffna Kilinochchi Mannar Vavuniya Mulativu	16 47	17 49	17 49	17 50	18 53	20 58	21 61	21 61	21 61
Eastern	Ampara Trincomalee Batticaloa									
Mahaweli	Udawalawe System H System B System C System G System L									
		200	220	220	226	241	262	276	276	276

Table 3. Production Program of the Planting Material Production: *Pomegranate Seedlings*

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total requirement (in '000)	42	18	26	37	46	39	23	23
<u>AGENCY</u>								
DOA (Nuclear Materials)	40	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Selected Orchardmen (Basic Material)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Nurserymen (Planting Material)	2	5	10	20	30	25	10	10
Individual Farmers (Self)	2	3	6	7	6	4	3	3
Imports	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of formal supply out of (additional + replacement) requirement	95	83	77	88	88	88	87	87

Table 4: Additional Funds Requirement('000 Rs): Pomegranate 1998-2005

Year	Research Extension		Planting	Total
1998	15	500	161	676
1999	15	525	41	581
2000	15	551	43	609
2001	15	579	45	639
2002	15	608	48	671
2003	15	638	49	702
2004	15	670	43	720
2005	15	704	43	762

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