

WOOD APPLE

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



Ministry of Agriculture & Lands – 1997

PRODUCTION PROGRAMME FOR WOOD APPLE

by

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Table of Contents

List of Tables	1
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Planned Strategies to Increase Production	1
2.1 Increasing Extent of Cultivation	1
2.2 Varietal Selection	2
3.3 Reduction of wastage	2
3.0 Planting Material Production	2
4.0 Research	2
5.0 Estimated Budget	3

List of Tables

Table 1:	Projected Targets of Extent, Production, Yield & Planting Material Requirement	4
Table 2:	Proposed Targets of Area: Woodapple	5
Table 3:	Production Programme for Planting Material for Woodapple	6
Table 4:	Additional Funds Requirements 1998-2005	6

Production Programme for Wood apple 1998–2005

1.0 Introduction

Wood apple is a seasonal fruit crop which is mostly grown in wild. Organized cultivations are not found and therefore wastage is very high. Proper selection of cultivars has not done for commercial cultivation. Hence, local selection programme to identify suitable cultivars is of vital importance.

The normal production season of wood apple is from June to August. Almost all production comes from forest and therefore, no cost of production is involved. The production is primarily consumed locally while a small quantity is exported in a processed form. However, potential of this crop at export market is not fully understood.

The processing industry of this fruit involves preparation of jam and fruit drinks. Development of the processing sector is vital for the development this fruit crop, reduction of wastage and to increase farm income.

The annual estimated production was about 33,000 mt in 1996 and the cultivated area was approximately 3300 ha.

2.0 Planned Strategies to Increase Production

The development programme on wood apple deals with the following aspects.

1. Increasing extent of cultivation
2. Varietal selection programme
3. Reduction of wastage

2.1 Increasing Extent of Cultivation

LCDZ is the best agro-ecological region for promotion of this crop. Hambantota, Ampara, Kurunegala, Puttalama, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Monaragala and Ratnapura districts have been identified as major districts

to promote this crop. A 65 percent (5065 ha) of increase in extent is anticipated with this programme by year 2005. Projected targets of extent, annual production yield and planting material requirement is presented in table 1. A districtwise breakdown of targeted extent is presented in table 2. These estimate on extent, production and yield are based on the information of Agriculture Implementation Programme 1996 and the information of Task Force on Fruits.

2.2 Varietal Selection

Though there is a wide germplasm variation is seen in wood apple, no selected cultivars or recommended cultivars are available for commercial cultivation. A local selection programme has already been initiated in Southern province. Under this proposed programme, it is anticipated to expand this selection programme to other provinces too.

2.3 Reduction of wastage

Unorganized production system leads to the higher wastage of seasonal production. An effective collecting system and a system to channel the produce to the processors are extremely vital. A specific programme to achieve this objectives are expected to implement with collaboration of NGO's.

3.0 Planting Material Production

The DOA is expected to play a major role in planting material production. The requirements of planting materials and agencies involved in production are presented in table 3.

4.0 Research

The research programmes on wood apple is still on its initial stage. Selection of suitable cultivars for different districts is a major task in the research programme. Development of a vegetative propagation system is very useful for quick promotion of selected cultivars. Slow growth rate of plants is a

major constraint in enhancing production. Therefore, research will be targeted on develop of cultivars with high growth rate and yield.

5.0 Estimated Budget:

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

Table 1. Projected Targets of Extent, Production Yield and Planting Material Requirement

Item	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total extent needed (ha)	3995	4176	4486	4781	5188	5460	5463	5466
Annual production (mt)	39954	41764	44864	47810	51879	54601	54628	54656
Expected yield (mt/ha)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Planting material requirement (000)	193	86	117	117	145	120	62	62

Identified districts: Hambantota, Ampara, Kurunegala, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Moneragala, Ratnapura.

Potential districts: Districts in the Dry Zone.

Table 2. Proposed Targets of Area(ha): Wood Apple

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	605	732	765	822	876	951	1000	1001	1001
Uva	Badulla									
	Monaragala	197	238	249	268	285	310	326	326	326
Sabaragamuwa										
	Ratnapura									
	Kegalle									
NWP	Kurunegala									
	Puttalam	353	427	446	480	511	555	584	584	584
Central	Kandy									
	Nuwara Eliya									
	Matale									
NCP	Anuradhapura									
	Polonnaruwa	8	10	10	11	12	13	13	13	13
Northern	Jaffna									
	Kilinochchi									
	Mannar	2120	2565	2681	2880	3070	3331	3506	3507	3509
	Vavuniya									
	Mulativu									
Eastern	Ampara	19	23	24	26	28	30	31	31	31
	Trincomalee									
	Batticaloa									
Mahaweli	Udawalawe									
	System H									
	System B									
	System C									
	System G									
	System L									
		3302	3995	4176	4486	4781	5188	5460	5463	5466

Table 3. Production Program of the Planting Material for Wood Apple (Seedlings)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total requirement (in '000)	193	86	117	117	145	120	62	62
AGENCY								
DOA (Nuclear Materials)	50	50	25	20	10	5	5	5
Selected Orchardmen (Basic Material)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Nurserymen (Planting Material)	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Individual Farmers (Self)	93	6	42	47	85	65	7	7
Imports	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
% of formal supply out of (additional + replacement) requirement	52	93	64	60	41	46	89	89

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

Year	Research	Extension	Planting Material	Total
1998	25	500	213	738
1999	25	525	213	763
2000	25	551	113	689
2001	25	579	93	697
2002	25	608	53	686
2003	25	638	33	696
2004	25	670	33	728
2005	25	704	33	762