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Farmers' Corner- A Knowledge Hub

Mangifera andamanica - an endemic wild mango species of conservation interest

Mangifera andamanica is a rare and endemic species of the Island. This species is distributed in Chouldhari and forests of Chidiyatapu. This wild mango species is conserved at field gene bank of ICAR-CIARI and also registered with NBPGR (ICAR- National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi) with IC No 04060 to receive national identity. The species is characterized by tall trees (9-12 m), spreading tree habit with elliptic oblong leaves and notched apex. Fruits are round, sma



shining orange yellow peel colour. The fruit weight ranges from 25 -35 g with total soluble solids in the range of 12-18° B. The raw mangoes of this species are used in pickle making as little sour in taste and the pulp is rich in phytochemicals. No serious pest and disease is reported from this species. This endemic mango (*M. andamanica*) can be propagated by seeds and grafting. For conservation of gene pool which is rare, planting can be taken up in gene banks, botanical gardens and in-situ conservation in wild.

Benefit: *M. andamanica* is a rare and endemic species of the Island which is potentially valuable for breeding programmes. Conservation of this species will help in widening the genetic base and as a source of bioactive compounds.

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