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### A NOTE ON PEPPER IN WYNAD

Kalluvally, Balamkotta, Uthirankotta, Karimunda, Kuthiravally and Arakalemunda are the varieties mostly seen in Wynad. In the old plantations, these varieties are trailed on the existing forest/fruit trees which provide heavy shade. With the large scale production and distribution of Panniyur—1, rooted cuttings from Horticultural Research Station, Ambalavayal, planters have taken to Panniyur—1. Yet the affinity to the old local varieties still exist due to certain false notions, especially about the percentage recovery of dry pepper. Therefore the economic characters of spike in the available 7 varieties were studied at Horticultural Research Station, Ambalavayal in 74—75, for comparison. Total yield of berries per vine could not be studied due to the non availability of different vines of the same age. Mean values of 25 observations in each variety are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**

**Economic characters of single spike (Mean of 25 observations)  
of different varieties of pepper grown at Ambalavayal**

Variety	Length cm	No. of berries			Green weight	Weight of berries		Percentage recovery of dry pepper
		Mature	Light	Total		Green	Dry	
Panniyur - 1	15.92	92.92	4.60	97.92	11.78	129.7	47.2	36.47
Karimunda	9.80	53.56	5.04	58.84	4.93	92.0	38.9	42.28
Kuthiravally	8.30	43.20	2.95	46.36	3.35	74.7	30.6	40.96
Balamkotta	6.32	18.72	1.27	19.84	2.51	46.1	15.8	34.27
Arakalemunda	12.00	49.40	7.24	56.64	4.60	91.8	28.8	31.37
Kalluvally	9.64	42.36	7.48	49.04	4.67	107.8	34.6	30.09
Uthirancotta	6.32	18.72	1.27	19.84	2.51	46.1	15.8	34.27

It is seen that Panniyur—1 excels other varieties in all the spike characters. In percentage recovery of dry pepper, it is next only to Karimunda and Kuthiravally, but this difference is amply made good by the total yield

given by Panniyur—1. Karimunda is a steady yielder and can tolerate shade to a good extent and hence it can be preferred in the existing coffee, orange or cocoa plantations where there is a shady upper canopy of forest trees or fruit trees. In plantations with lighter shade trees like silver oak, Panniyur—1 is the best which prefers more sunlight. Same is the case with pure pepper plantations. Other varieties are not found to be economic yielders.

### സംഗ്രഹം

അമ്പലവയൽ കൃഷി ശവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ 1974-75 വർഷങ്ങളിൽ 7 ഇനം കരുമുള്ള കൃഷിചെയ്യ പരീക്ഷിച്ചതിൽ പന്നിയൂർ 1 എന്നയിനം വിളനൽകുന്നതായി കണ്ടു. എന്നാൽ കരിമുണ്ട എന്ന ഇനത്തിനാണ് ചോലയിൽ വളരാനുള്ള ശേഷി കൂടുതൽ. നിവിലുള്ള ഓറഞ്ച്, കോഫി തോട്ടങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷിചെയ്യാൻ ഈ ഇനമാണ് ഉത്തമം. ചോലകറഞ്ഞ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾക്കു പറ്റിയതു പന്നിയൂർ 1 ആണ്. മറ്റിനങ്ങൾ താരതമ്യേന മോശമായി കണ്ടു.

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