

Agri. Res. J. Kerala, 1977, 15 (2)

TRIAL ON PLANTING MATERIAL ON CASHEW

Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale* L) being a crosspollinated crop, plants raised from seeds do not generally breed true to type and therefore, the plant population in cashew gardens exhibits variation in morphological and economic characters. To obviate these variations and unpredictable performance and to get progenies true to type the only means that can be adopted is vegetative propagation of the selected parent trees. With a view to comparing the merits and demerits of using seeds, layers and inarched grafts as planting material for cashew, a randomised replicated trial was laid out at the Cashew Research Station, Anakkayam during the year 1965, using the above types of propagation materials derived from same mother trees for same replications. It was observed that (a) grafts generally failed to establish under field conditions that prevailed at this station. (b) Layers started early flowering as compared to seedlings. The yield of nuts obtained under the various treatments during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 are given in Table 1. The foregoing observations establish beyond doubt the superiority of airlayers over seedlings in respect of economic characters like earliness in flowering and higher yield of nuts.

Table 1 Yield of cashew raised from seeds, layers and grafts.

Treatments	Yield of nuts in kilogram per tree (mean)			
	1973-74	1974-75	Mean	Percentage increase over seedlings
I Seedlings	2.08	2.56	2.32	—
II Layers	3.02	3.66	3.34	44
III Grafts	2.42	2.76	2.59	11.6

സംഗ്രഹം

ആനക്കയം കശുമാവ് ഗവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ കശുമാവിന്റെ വായവമായ പതിവച്ച തൈകൾ, ഒട്ടിച്ച തൈകൾ സാധാരണ തൈകൾ എന്നിവ തമ്മിലുള്ള ഒരു താരതമ്യ പഠനം നടത്തുകയുണ്ടായി. നേരത്തെ കായ്ച്ച തുടങ്ങുന്നതിനും, വിളവിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിലും വായവമായ പതിവച്ച തൈകളിൽ നിന്നുണ്ടായ മരങ്ങൾ 110000 (100)000 മെച്ചപ്പെട്ടവയാണെന്ന് കാണുകയുണ്ടായി.

Cashew Research Station'
Anakkayam.

p. G. VEERARAGHAVAN
M. G. VASAVAN

(M. S. received: 3-6-1977)