

Improved Varieties of Mango

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INTRODUCTION

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is the leading fruit crop of India and considered to be the king of fruits. Besides delicious taste, excellent flavour and attractive fragrance, it is rich in vitamin A and C. The tree is hardy in nature, can be grown in a variety of soil and requires comparatively low maintenance costs. Raw fruits are used for making chutney, pickles and juices. The ripe fruits besides being used for desert are also utilised for preparing several products like squashes, syrups, nectars, jams and jellies. The mango kernel also contains 8-10 percent good quality fat which can be used for soap and also as a substitute for cocoa butter in confectionery.

There are nearly 1000 mango varieties in India. However, only about 20 varieties are grown commercially. Most of the Indian mango varieties have specific eco-geographical requirements for optimum growth, development, flowering and fruiting. Dashehari, Langra, Chausa, Bombay Green and Fazri in north India; Banganapalli, Totapuri, Neelum, Pairi, Suvarnarekha, Mulgoa, Kalapadiand Rumani in south India; Alphonso, Kesar, Mankurad, Fernandin' and 'Vanraj' in western India and 'Langra', 'Fazri', 'Chausa', 'Zardalu', 'Himsagar' and 'Malda' in eastern India are grown commercially. Brief characteristics of these varieties are given below:

Commercial cultivar of mango

1. Dashehari: This variety evolves from Dashehari village which is situated in Kakori block of district Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. It is very choicest variety among the people due to having excellent taste and contain good amount of fibreless pulp. It is a mid season leading commercial variety of north India. The fruit size is small to medium, shape is oblong oblique and fruit colour is yellow.

Fruit quality is excellent and keeping quality is good. It is mainly used for table purpose.

2. Chaunsa: Late-maturing variety of north India, it matures during July or beginning of August. Fruits are large, weighing about 350g each. Fruits are bright yellow with soft and sweet pulp. It is shy bearing.

3. Langra: An important commercial mango variety of north India, it is biennial-bearer and

a mid-season variety, with good quality fruits. Flesh is firm, lemon-yellow in colour and scarcely fibrous. It has characteristic turpentine flavour. Keeping quality is medium.

4. Bombay Green: It is one of the earliest varieties of north India. Its fruits are medium-sized, weighing about 250g each. Fruits have strong and pleasant flavour. Pulp is soft and sweet.



Dashehari



Chaunsa



Langra



Bombay Green

5. Alphonso: This is the leading commercial variety of Maharashtra state and one of the choicest varieties of the country. This variety is known by different names in different regions, viz. Badami, Gundu, Khader, Appas, Happus and Kagdi Happus. The fruit of this variety is medium in size, ovate oblique in shape and orange yellow in colour. The fruit quality is excellent and keeping quality is good. It has been found good for canning purpose. It is mainly exported as fresh fruit to other countries. It is a mid season variety.

6. Gulab Khas: It is indigenous to Bihar. Regular and heavy-bearer, it is mid-season mango. Fruits are small to medium-sized. It has rosy flavour. Fruits are ambré-yellow with reddish blush towards the base and on sides. Keeping quality is good.

7. Bangalora: The common synonyms of this variety are Totapuri, Kallamai, Thevadiyamuthi, Collector, Sundersha, Burmodilla, Killi Mukku and Gilli Mukku. It is a commercial variety of south India. The fruit size is medium to large, its shape is oblong with necked base and colour is golden yellow. Fruit quality is poor but keeping quality is very good. It is widely used for processing. It is a mid season variety.

8. Banganapalli: It is also known as Chapta, Safeda, Baneshan and Chapai. Fruit is large in size and obliquely oval in shape. It is a commercial variety of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The colour of the fruit is golden yellow. Fruit quality and keeping quality are good. It is a mid season variety and is good for canning.



Alphonso



Gulab Khas



Bangalora



Banganapalli

9. Fajri: This variety is commonly grown in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Fruit is very large, obliquely oval in shape. Fruit colour is light chrome. Fruit quality and keeping quality are medium. This is a late season variety.

10. Himsagar: This variety is indigenous to Bengal. This is one of the choicest varieties of Bengal and has gained extensive popularity. Fruit is of medium size, ovate to ovate oblique in shape. Fruit colour is yellow. Fruit quality and keeping quality are good. It is an early season variety.



Fajri



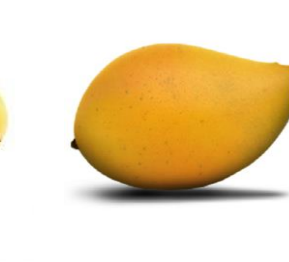
Himsagar

11. Kesar: It is commercial cultivar of Gujarat. Fruit medium oblong with a red blush on the shoulders; good keeping quality; ideal for pulping and juice concentrates; early season variety.

12. Neelum: It is cultivated in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa. The fruit is medium ovate-oblique in shape and saffron yellow in colour; good keeping quality; high yielding and regular bearing; ideal variety for transporting to distant places. This variety is mostly used for table purpose.



Kesar



Neelum

Hybrid varieties of mango

1. Malika: It is released from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi and cross between (Neelum X Dashehari). The fruit is large, oblong elliptical yellow in colour; fruit and keeping quality is good and is mostly used for table purpose.

2. Amrapali: This variety is developed cross between (Dashehari X Neelum) from Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi. It is Dwarf, regular bearing and late maturing variety; suitable for high density

planting; flesh is fibreless; average yield 16 tonnes/hectare.

3. Ratna: It is developed from cross between (Neelum X Alphonso) from Konkan Krishi Vidyapith, Maharashtra. Tree moderately vigorous, precocious, fruits are medium sized, attractive in colour and free from spongy tissue.

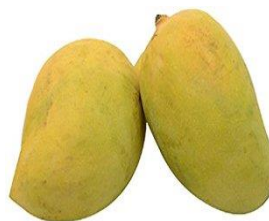
4. Sindhu: It is from a cross of Ratna and Alphonso. It is regular bearer, fruits medium sized, free from spongy tissue with high pulp to stone ratio and very thin and small stone.



Mallika



Amrapali



Ratna



Sindhu

5. Arka Aruna: It is a hybrid between Banganapalli and Alphonso. It is dwarf, regular bearing and precocious. Fruits are

large having attractive skin colour with red blush and free from spongy tissue. Suitable for homesteads as well as high density planting.

6. Arka Puneet: It is a hybrid between Alphonso and Banganapalli. It is a regular and prolific bearer. Fruits are medium sized having attractive skin colour with red blush, excellent keeping quality and free from spongy tissue.

7. Arka Anmol: This hybrid is from a cross of Alphonso and Janardhan Pasand. It is regular bearer and good yielder. Fruits are

medium sized having uniform yellow peel colour, excellent keeping quality and free from spongy tissue.

8. Arka Neelkiran: It is a hybrid between Alphonso and Neelum. It is regular bearing late season variety with medium sized fruit having attractive red blush and free from spongy tissue.



Arka Aruna



Arka Puneet



Arka Anmol



Arka Neelkiran

9. Ambika: This hybrid is a cross between Amrapali and Janardhan Pasand. It is a regular and prolific bearer. Fruits are medium sized having attractive skin colour with red blush, and late in ripening.

10. Au Rumani: It is from a cross of Rumani and Mulgoa. It is precocious, heavy and regular bearer with large fruits having yellow cadmium skin colour.

11. Manjeera: This hybrid is from a cross of Rumani and Neelum. It is dwarf, regular and prolific bearer with firm and fibreless flesh.

12. PKM-1: It is from a cross of Chinnasuvernarekha and Neelum. It is regular bearer, heavy yielder and bears fruits in clusters.



Ambika



Au Rumani



Manjeera



PKM-1