Laccadive Ordinary Tall (LCT) in India

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Conservation

Laccadive Ordinary Tall (LCT) is conserved at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kasaragod (Kerala) and at the Seed Farmin Kidu (Karnataka), India.

History

LCT was introduced to the Indian mainland in 1940. The *inter se* population of this cultivar was planted at CPCRI in Kasaragod and in the Kidu Seed Farm in 1993. It is also maintained at the coordinating centres and different states under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Palms.

Identification

The palm grows to about 11.6 m with a stem girth of 80 cm. It starts flowering 4-5 years after planting. The inflorescence has a long male phase (19 days) and a short female phase (4 days) with a 3-day overlap. The fruit, whose colour varies from greenish yellow to brown, is medium-sized. The oval de-husked nut has thick kernel and shell.

Yield and production

The palm starts fruiting about six years after planting and produces about 12 bunches a year. Under rain-fed conditions, the yield in Kasaragod ranges from 82 to 178 fruits per palm while under irrigated conditions, the yield may exceed 200 nuts depending on the soil fertility. The percentage of husk is more than 39% and the copra content is 176g per nut with 70% oil. The palm gives 3 t of copra and 2.1 t of oil per ha.

Other information

Laccadive Ordinary Tall is popular among the farmers due to its stress tolerance. It is tolerant to drought but susceptible to root (wilt) disease of Kerala. It is moderately tolerant to gray blight caused by *Pestalotiopsis palmarum* (Cooke) Steyaert. The palms are considered very good for tapping sweet toddy as the yield of toddy is nearly twice the one obtained from West Coast Tall.

LCT is widely used in breeding as it has the best combining ability among cultivars tested. It is also used for the production of hybrids such as 'Chandralaksha' (LCT x COD) which gave yields higher than either of the parents.

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Laccadive Ordinary Tall (LCT)

photographed in Côte d'Ivoire

Nadora Tall (NDRT)

Ratnambal MJ, Kumaran PM, Bashkara Rao EVV, Pillai RV

Conservation

Nadora Tall (NDRT) is conserved at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute in Kasaragod (Kerala), India.

History

Nadora Tall is one of three cultivars in India that are unique to Goa State. It is confined to the northern districts of Goa and is more adapted to the coastal region. The name of the cultivar is derived from Nadora, the village where it is cultivated. This cultivar was introduced to Kasaragod in 1965. The *inter se* seedlings were planted in Aliyarnagar (Tamil Nadu) in 1990. In addition, 90 seedlings were planted in 1998 in the International Genebank for South Asia in Kidu, Karnataka.

Identification

The palm grows up to 9-10 m. At Aliyarnagar, the palm produced 12 leaves per year. There are 17 leaf scars on the stem between 1 and 2 m from ground level. The leaf is long (6 m) with 225 leaflets which are 124 cm long and 6 cm wide. The oval shaped fruits are generally greenish yellow. The palms are cross-pollinated as there is no overlapping of male and female phases. This cultivar exhibits intermediate husk value at 36% of whole fruit weight. The nut inside is almost round in shape.

Yield and production

The palm flowers nine years after planting. It produces around 8 bunches, ranging from 7-10 per palm per year. In mature palms, the yield range is 50-150 nuts. Some of the high yielding palms gave as many as 193 fruits per palm. The copra content is 191g per nut which produce 22.8 kg copra per palm, with an oil content of 64.5% which is lower than that of the local Tall variety.

Other information

Although Nadora Tall produces bigger fruits than the Benaulim Tall cultivar, it has not become popular among farmers due to its long pre-bearing period.

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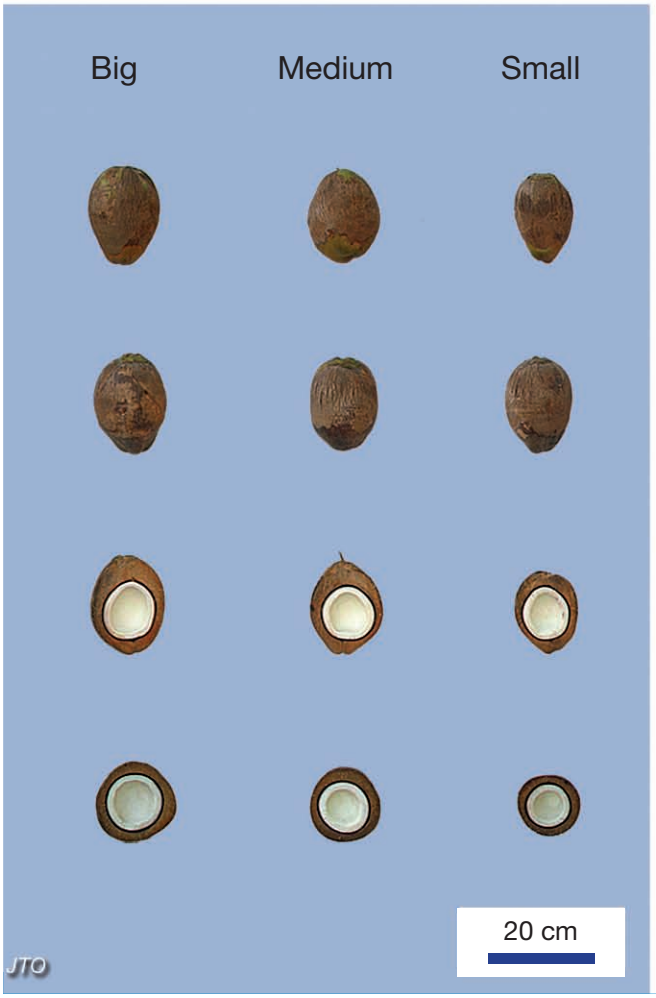
Nadora Tall (NDRT)



Rangoon Kobbari Tall (RKBT)

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Conservation

Rangoon Kobbari Tall (RKBT) is conserved at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute in Kasaragod (Kerala), India.

History

Rangoon Kobbari Tall was introduced to CPCRI, Kasaragod in 1956 from Andhra Pradesh. Rangoon refers to Burma (present Myanmar) and Kobbari in Telugu (local language of Andhra Pradesh) means coconut (literally, coconut variety from Rangoon). Menon and Pandalai (1958) mentioned that this variety from Andhra Pradesh appears similar to Andaman Giant Tall with large nuts and high copra. Nuts of this variety might have been brought from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, cultivated in Andhra Pradesh and subsequently brought to Kasaragod.

Identification

The variety grows to a height of about 7 m, with about 33 leaves on the crown. The leaves are long (5.6 m) with a strong petiole which is about 129 cm long. The leaflets are long (118 cm) and broad (5.8 cm). There are about 236 leaflets on a leaf. The stem is stout with a distinct bole and the girth of the stem at 1 m height is 90 cm. There are 25 leaf scars measured from 1 to 2 m above ground level. The palm starts flowering seven years after planting. The inflorescence is long with a female phase of 17.6 days and male phase of 5.5 days. The palms are both cross and self-pollinating as there is an inter-spadix overlapping of about 3.8 days in 69.6% of the palms.

Yield and production

Fruiting starts nine years after planting. The palm produces 42 to 107 nuts per year. The fruit is heavy (1502g) with a large nut (890g). It has medium husk content, making up 41% of whole fruit weight. The kernel yields 264g copra per nut, giving 3.4 t of copra and 2.4 t of oil per ha. The oil content in copra is 70%.

Other information

Although the variety is not popular among farmers it can be popularized among farmers who prefer big nuts for various reasons.

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Rangoon Kobbari Tall (RKBT)