

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON AKSHAY — A REGULAR BEARING DASHEHARI CLONE OF MANGO

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Akshay - a Dashehari clone of mango has been identified as a regular bearing clone. It has been observed that average weight of mango fruits of this variety is 210 percent higher as compared to other Dashehari plants of similar age. It has also been observed that high temperature affects weight and size of Akshay fruits drastically.

Key words : Mango, *Mangifera indica*, Akshaya

The major disorder in mango (*Mangifera indica*) production in northern India is alternate bearing. Genetical, physiological and environmental factors may be attributed for irregular bearing.

A mango orchard of 234 plants is being grown at Village Poore-Beni Bhadwaria, Konhara, Amethi, Dist. Sultanpur. Akshay Dashehari clone was planted in 1976. Akshay has been identified as a regular bearing clone, in view of its performance for the last seven years (1993-1999). 60 to 65 per cent new shoots on this clone are produced in May which subsequently bear fruits. The fruit size is medium with excellent fruit quality. The field of fruits in Akshay clone has compared well with other Dashehari plants of similar age.

During 1999 season, the fruit weight and size of Dashehari has been reduced drastically. This may have happened due to extremely high temperature in April. The average maximum temperature for April (1989-1998) was 36-37°C whereas for April 1999, it was 39-40°C. The fertilizer and irrigations were applied uniformly. The average weight of mango fruits of Akshay, which were plucked randomly was 210 per cent higher as compared to other Dashehari plants of similar age, canopy and fruit number. Thus the weight and size of fruits of Akshay was relatively less affected due to April high temperature, providing stability in the changing environment.

Dr. Room Singh, IARI, New Delhi inspected Akshay clone on July 3, 1999 and its bud wood has been collected by him for further research.

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