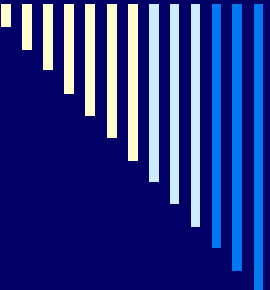



BANANA

in

ASSAM



The uniqueness of banana sector in Assam, a natural home of this crop, is its diverse characteristics – i.e. varietal strength – numbering 15 to 20 which are either cultivated or partially domesticated or still in wild form. Some of the excellent traits of these varieties may be lucrative for the breeders – but these crops are for us awaiting commercialization and value addition. They are being cultivated mostly as home-stead crop in an area of 42,104 ha. which annually produces 5,80,995 MT of raw banana - more than 60 to 70 percent as marketable surplus.



VARIETAL SITUATION

The North-Eastern region has diverse forms of indigenous banana clones; most common indigenous cultivated banana are under the genomic group AAA, AAB and ABB. The region is endowed with wild *balbisiana* diploid (BB). Some of the important cultivars grown in this region and their characters are given in next slides.



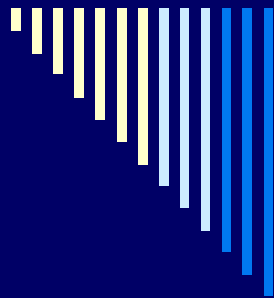
JHAJI (AAA)

Plant dwarf statured;

Duration around 340 days;

Average bunch weight 20 kg;

TSS 20%.



JAHAJI



BAR JHAJI (AAA)

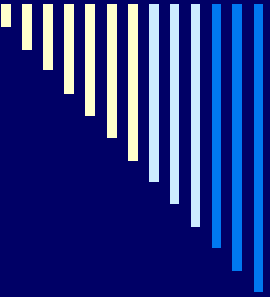
Plant medium tall;

Duration more than a year;

**Fruits retain greenish colour
even after ripening;**

**Average bunch weight around
25 kg;**

TSS 21%.



BAR JAHAJI



CHENICHAMPA (AAB)

Plant is medium tall;

Duration around 370 days;

Average bunch weight 15 kg;

TSS 18 - 20%.



CHENICHAMPA



MALBHOG (AAB)

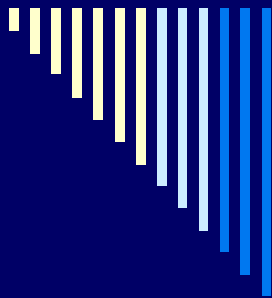
Plant is medium tall;

Duration around 380 days;

**Grown mainly in sandy loam soil
and in foot hills;**

Bunch weight 15 kg;

TSS 22%.



MALBHOG



PURAKAL (ABB)

Extensively grown for culinary purposes;

Plant is medium tall;

Duration around 380 days;

Bunch weight around 15 kg;

‘Kach Kal’ (ABB) almost similar to ‘Pura Kal’.



PURAKAL

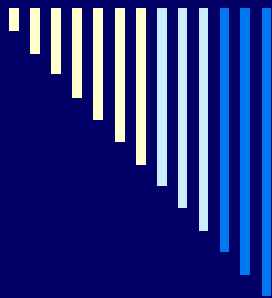


BHIMKAL (BB)

**The plant very tall and robust,
seeded, resistant to all pests and
diseases;**

Average bunch weight 30 kg;

TSS 25%.



BHIMKAL



HONDA (AAB)

Grown in the plain region;

Medium in height;

Duration around 420 days;

Fruits are short and large;

Average bunch weight 16.5 kg;

TSS 18.5%.



HONDA





BHARATMANI (AAA)

The peel turns attractive yellow at ripening with green patches at the tip of the fruit;

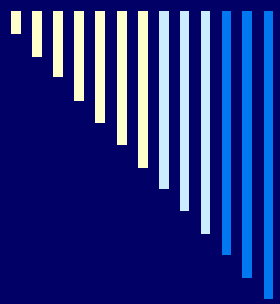
Plant is medium tall;

Duration 420 days;

Average bunch weight 13.5 kg.;

Fruit angular, short and large, pulp yellowish;

TSS 19.5%.





KANAIBANSI (AA)

Plant height medium;

Duration around 405 days;

Long fruits;

**Average bunch weight more than
20 kg.**



KANAIBANSI



SAAPKAL (AAB)

Grown in the foot-hills;

Plant height medium;

Crop duration around 400 days;

Average bunch weight 18 kg;

TSS 20.17%.



SAAPKAL



GARO MOINA (AAA)

Grown in hills;

Plant medium dwarf;

Average bunch weight 17.65 kg;

TSS 15.33%.



HATIDAT (AAA)

Medium in height;

Attractive fruit colour;

Average duration 396 days;

Bunch weight 16.5 kg.



HATIDAT



Status of Disease & Pest of Banana

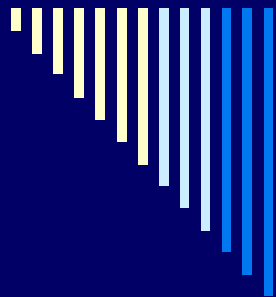
Major Diseases - **Bunchy Top**
Leaf Spot

Major Pests - **Fruit scarring beetle**
Pseudo-stem borer



Uses of banana in Assam

- ◆ an integral part of typical Assamese dishes used as vegetables;
 - ◆ *Khaar* (Ash) made from banana is a bio-antacid;
 - ◆ as dish, wrapping, packing material etc;
 - ◆ as rescue boat by tying 3 to 4 pseudo-stems by marooned people;
 - ◆ as baby food by mixing with rice flour;
 - ◆ media for preparing vermi-compost;
 - ◆ as inter-crop along with other plantation;
 - ◆ as ingredient for beer making.
-



Banana as thrust crop under Horticulture Technology Mission

- ✓ already covered more than one thousand hectare under modern cultivation practices.**



Where lies the strength ?

- **The crop is bound to be happy when there is rich soil and abundant rainfall.**
 - **Wide range of varietal options - each having its own beauty.**
 - **Existence of biggest banana market at Darrangiri in Goalpara district. Already a hot spot for middle man / external traders.**
 - **It is one hundred percent organic.**
 - **Existence of strong R&D infrastructure.**
-



Where lies the strength ? (Contd....)

- **Existence of Tissue culture laboratory for large-scale propagation.**
 - **Domestic market is lucrative but can be spring-board for export.**
 - **Excellent atmosphere for investment in processing sector - supported by central and state incentives.**
 - **Cheap labour.**
-



Thank You
