

Vegetative Propagation in Cashew

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Budding and grafting operations were conducted from December (1977) to September (1978) taking five varieties (Tree No. 1, Hyb 2/12, Ansur No. 1, M 6/1, H 4 - 7) as scion material over local root stock of less than one year of age, under nursery condition.

Compared to 'T' budding, side grafting was more successful. January, February, September, July and June were found to be most suitable period for side grafting with decreasing order of success (80 to 60%), where as less than 16 per cent success was recorded in case of 'T' budding.

So far as varieties are concerned 60 to 100 per cent success in side grafting was obtained in all the varieties when grafting was done in above mentioned period.

Increase Cashew Production Adopting Vegetative Propagation

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To find out the suitable age of seedlings, the best time for patch budding/ veneer grafting and their comparative success, five monthly sowings from May to September; budding/grafting from November to March and two methods of propagation viz. patch budding and veneer grafting were studied. In case of veneer grafting, both defoliated and undefoliated scions were tried. In addition, the comparative performance of patch budding and veneer grafting was studied *in situ* also, on one year old seedlings during rainy season. Percentage success in both the cases (potted and *in situ* seedlings) was recorded after sprouting i.e. about two and half months after the operation.

The results obtained from propagation trials indicate that patch budding gave better success (61%) than veneer grafting (36%) in potted seedlings and the performance of 6 to 7 months old seedlings was found satisfactory. In

the case of veneer grafting, undefoliated scions were found to be a complete failure and hence defoliation, about a week prior to grafting operation was found essential.

However, the observations recorded *in situ* reveal that veneer grafting gave as high as 92 per cent success as against 62 per cent in case of patch budding during rainy season.

For large scale multiplication of promising clones, seeds should be sown in alkathene bags during September-October and patch budding operation should be undertaken during March (i.e. on about 6 months old seedlings), so that the sprouted buddings could be planted just before the onset of monsoon. For quick multiplication, budding is preferable over grafting since more number of buds can be had than scions per unit area of clonal material.

Preliminary Studies on Propagation of Cashew by Stooling and Layering

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Experiments have been carried out to propagate cashew vegetatively adopting, budding, grafting and air-layering with varied degrees of success. But, no detailed study seemed to have been made to propagate cashew by stooling and layering. Hence, trials were taken up on mound layering in cashew at C.P.C.R.I. Regional Station, Vittal, in 1978.

Fifteen adult trees of cashew were subjected to stooling during the second fortnight of February 1978. The girth of each stool was measured to find out correlation, if any, between stool girth and the number of coppice produced. The coppice produced were covered with a mound of sand at the basal portion during the first week of May 1978. After etiolation for about 40 days, the basal portion of the stools were cinctured and treated with IBA for quick rooting and again covered with sand for rooting to take place. The shoots were observed for rooting during first week of August 1978, and the rooted ones were separated and planted in polybags for further studies.

The process was repeated with another set of fifty shoots. The etiolated shoots were cinctured during last week of September 1978 and observed for rooting during the last week of October 1978 and the rooted layers were planted in containers.