

**The crop of the day:
The Mango, *Mangifera indica*
(Anacardiaceae: includes PI/PS/PO!)**



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***Mangifera indica* - Mango (I)**

Sources of information: Simmonds (1976); Sauer (1993); Galán Saucó (1993)

	Surface (ha)	Production (t)
World	2129201	1.7E+7
India	1200000	9500000
Thailand	185700	440000
Brazil	126500	390000

Paul Gepts - PLB143 April 12,2006 2

***Mangifera indica* - Mango (II)**

-) Anacardiaceae (same family as cashew):
 - 5 wild *Mangifera* sp.: ~ 40 sp., all from S.E. Asia, some endangered
 - 5 wild *Mangifera indica*: N.E. India
-) Tree: 30-40 m tall
-) Tropical climates at low altitude (monsoon climate); requires dry season for fruit set
-) Age of domestication : 4,000 BP (?)
-) Dispersal eastward: 400-500 BC to east Asia; reached the Philippines in 15th century (national fruit of Philippines)
-) Dispersal westward: 16th century: by Portuguese: Africa, Brazil

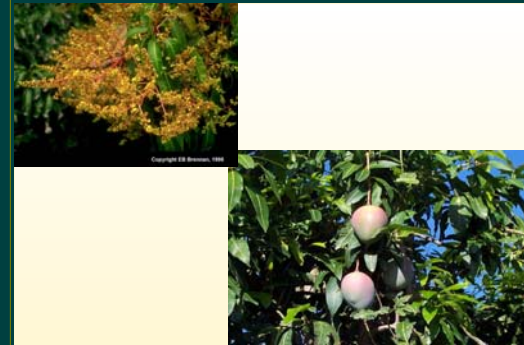
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Mangifera indica - Mango (III)

-) Reproductive system: outcrossing: great variation among seedling (monoembryony); some apomixis --> polyembryony --> vegetative multiplication of best cultivars
-) Domestication: selection for
 - 5 succulence: larger fruits
 - 5 low fibre
 - 5 low resin
 - 5 smaller pit



Mangifera indica - Mango (IV)

-) People who react to any of the species of PI/PO/PS will undoubtedly react to the others; further, they may cross-react with mango (*Mangifera indica*), cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*), and Chinese or Japanese Lacquer (*Rhus verniciflua*). (the cellulose-based spray paint that is called lacquer is not involved in this... just "real" lacquer, like carved lacquer boxes, etc.).
-) Generally speaking, it's not a good idea to sit under any member of the Anacardiaceae in the rain... they all tend to have a leaf toxin that falls on innocent bystanders below.

***Mangifera indica* - Mango (V)**

Vitamin A content

Level	ug retinol equivalent/kg	Crops
Medium	<500 ug	guava, kumquat, mandarin
High	<4000 ug	apricot, loquat, orange-fleshed melon, papaya, persimmon
Red pepper	6000 ug	
Mango	12500 ug	