

Cultivation practices of Apple Ber (*Indian jujube*)



- Apple Ber is a Thailand variety fruit and it is also known as the Indian jujube or Chinese date.
- The taste of this Apple Ber is Sweet, Crispy and Juicy. The weight of each fruit is around 150-200gm.
- After one year of planting, it starts bearing fruits but in a small quantity.
- This tree gives 25-30kg fruits after three years of plantation and then after getting proper care it gives 45-50 kg fruits in every year.
- In India Apple Ber are cultivated in the state of West Bengal, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- Normally all types of soil are suitable for its cultivation.
- For best production this plant requires hot and dry climatic conditions.
- The best suitable time for planting Apple Ber is from the month of June to August. On availability of irrigation facilities, it may be planted during December to March.
- Apple Ber fruits take 70 to 75 days to mature from flowering.
- Apple Ber bear fruits during the months March to October.
- The plant life is of around 20 years.

Planting Apple Ber



- Apple Ber should be planted at the distance of 5 meters (plant to plant and row to row), to accommodate 190 to 200 plants per acre of land.
- To plant sapling of Apple Ber there must be pit digging and pit filling process. The pit size must not be less than 2X2X2 fits.
- For pit filling use 10 kg of cow dung manure or 7 kg vermicompost along with 250gm of neem cake or Karanz cake, 250 gm lime.
- 40 gm carbofuran in each pit can be used as anti-termite agent during pit filling
- After filling the pits put at least two litter of water in each pit.
- Planting must be done only after 15 days of pit filling.
- Planting materials or sapling must be seasoned in nursery and at least should be one year old.
- While planting the sapling put 150 gm of DAP to each pit.



Care of Apple Ber plants

- Every year plant must be pruned during March to April months to have fresh twigs and branches.
- Each year plant will require to provide manuring and watering after pruning of plant.
- Each plant will require at least 5 kg of manures and mixture of 50 gm urea, 30 gm DAP and 50 gm potash. With increase in age of plant the manure and other nutrient will increase accordingly.
- During flowering and fruiting i.e., during the month of July to August, another dose of manure and fertilizers will require to provide to each plant for best quality fruits (2.5 kg of organic manure with mixture of 50gm, 30gm, 50 gm of Urea, DAP and Potash)



Insect pest in Apple Ber plant

- ✓ Apple Ber plant is hardy in nature yet it attracts few pests like fruit fly, fruit borer, leaf eating caterpillar, mealybugs, scale insect, and thrips.
- ✓ Few diseases are also known for Apple Ber plant are powdery mildew, leaf spot, rust and black spot.

