

A Technique of Transplantation of Flowered Papaya Trees

Occurrence of non-productive staminate trees is a problem when dioecious types of papaya varieties are grown from seeds. The staminates in papaya range normally from 50-60 per cent (Naik, 1949 and Narasimhan, 1949) and the requirement of staminates for pollination is 5 to 10 per cent (Naik, 1949). It is generally not possible to identify the sex of plants before they flower. As such transplanting the plants, after identifying the sex with a view to minimize the staminates in plantation of papaya was attempted by adopting transplanting flowered trees. The technique of transplanting consisted of uprooting the trees after removing the laminae of all except the top most three matured leaves. The trees so uprooted were transplanted in pits of 60x60x60 cm size at the same level as the plants existed prior to uprooting. Pot watering was done immediately after transplanting and then daily for a fortnight. Normal irrigations were given soon after establishment.

The above transplanting technique described indicated a successful establishment of transplanted flowered trees accompanied by normal bearing. Such a transplanting technique was adopted in a planted field also when they turn out as staminates. The replacement of such unproductive staminates by the flowered pistillate tree in the same pit indicated a cent per cent establishment.

Based on the observations, transplantation of flowered papaya trees offer a good scope for establishment of productive trees in a papaya plantation.

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