

STUDY ON CASHEWNUT IN INDIA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
Planning Commission
NEW DELHI

FOREWORD

The Indian cashewnut industry provides employment to several lakhs of people and makes a valuable contribution to our export earnings. It has expanded in recent years, but as this study conducted by the Committee on Natural Resources points out, India has the potential of a much larger increase in production of cashewnut. This increase will enable it to expand exports and also to make fruitful use of land in several areas of South India. The Committee has recommended a rapid survey of areas suitable for cashew plantation and a phased programme of plantation during the Fourth Five Year Plan. I do hope that this and other recommendations of the study will be found useful by all concerned with development of the cashewnut industry.

April 7, 1964

M. S. THACKER,
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Preface

Cashewnut is an important commercial crop of India and an earner of valuable foreign exchange. Production and export trade of the crop have possibilities of considerable expansion because the plant can grow extensively in South India on areas of poor, sandy soil and hilly terrain and can even be used for soil conservation. The by-products like cashew apple have profitable uses in industry.

This study describes the various aspects of production and trade in the crop and gives a review of the research and development programmes undertaken in recent years. It is concerned especially with analysing the possibilities of increasing production through plantations in suitable areas, and other measures. Preparation of first draft of the study was entrusted to Shri T. S. Krishnamurti, Chief Development and Liaison Officer, Coconut, Arecanut, Spices & Cashewnut, Ministry of Food & Agriculture. The draft report was considered at a meeting of the Study Team on Cashewnut on the 5th to 9th February, 1964. Valuable contributions were made by the members of the Study Team in revising the draft. The revised report was considered at a meeting held on 6-4-1964 under the Chairmanship of Prof. M. S. Thacker.

The Indian Central Cashewnut Committee have given valuable assistance in preparation of the Study. I am thankful to the Committee and to all members of the Study Team for their cooperation.

New Delhi,
April 7, 1964.

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