

# A STUDY ON PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF CASHEWNUT IN INDIA

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**Abstract :** India has always been a major player in the production of cashew nut. It is the second largest producer of raw cashew in the world but ranks 1<sup>st</sup> place among the largest producing countries of cashew nut and also in the maximum area covered, which that figures to be 7.70 lakh hectares currently. The country provides with around 55% supply of cashew nut in the world. The Indian productions of cashews contribute to around 4.6 lakhs tones per annum. In India, Maharashtra leads the list above with an annual production of 174000 tons and also has the maximum area covered i.e.160000 hectares. The country's average annual yield per hectare is about 810 kilograms.

## IndexTerms- ert.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale*) belongs to the family Anacardiaceae which includes many economically important tropical and sub tropical trees and shrubs. In most tropical countries it is found to be growing in the coastal areas. However, commercial production is mainly confined to India, Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya and Brazil. Today, the major cashew producing states in India are listed as Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, Orissa and west Bengal.

Cashew is believed to be native to south eastern Brazil, from where it was introduced to India in the sixteenth century. It appears probable that it reached east African countries also by about the same time. No serious efforts appear to have been made to collect historical evidence nor any archaeological survey has been attempted to study the history of the cashew cultivation. Cashew was introduced to the Malabar coast of India in the sixteenth century by the Portuguese and probably served as a locus of dispersal to other centers in India and south east Asia. The Spaniards who were aware of the use of cashew in medicine, foods and beverages, probably visualised the potential importance of this crop of India.

"Acaju" is the name given to the cashewnut by the native of tapi Indians of Brazil and the French name "Acaju" is the nearest equivalent to the original. The Portuguese dropped the letter 'A' and "Acaju" became as "Caju" in Portuguese. The Kashmiri, Punjabi, Hindi, Marathi and Gujarati lexicons in India also refer to the cashew as "Caju". It is probable that the use of the kernel spread from Goa to Maharashtra, and the hence to Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Kashmir and other Hindi speaking areas. In Kerala it is called "Parangi Andi" meaning foreign or "Portuguese nut". It is also known as "Kasu Andi", 'Kasu' meaning money and "Andi" means the nut. In Tamil it is well known as "Mundari" indicating the position and shape of the nut. In Oriya it is known by the name 'Lanka Beeja' indicating that cashew reached Orissa by sea from Srilanka. The Bengalis named cashew as "Hijli Badam" and Assamese refer to the nut as "Caju Badam". Thus most of the names used for cashew in India are derived from the Portuguese "Caju" for cashew. This serves as a piece of evidence that the cashew is originated in Brazil.

### II IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY:

Cashew is known by many names. In Mozambique, the Maconde tribe refer to it as the 'Devil's Nut'. It is offered at wedding ceremonies as a token of fertility and is considered by many to have aphrodisiac properties. The cashew tree and its products are known by the following names in other parts of the world:

Portuguese	caju, cajueiro, pe de caju, castanha de caju, maca de caju
French	cajou, acajou, ancardier, noix de cajou, pomme de cajou, amande de cajou
English	cashew, cashew tree, cashew nut, cashew apple, cashew kernel
Spanish	maranon, nuez de maranon
Hindi	Cadju
Sinhalese	Cadju
Italian	anacardio, noce d'anacardio, mandorlad'anacardio
Dutch	acajou, kashu
German	acajuban, kashunuss
Swahili	mkanju, korosho
Somali	bibbo, bibs
Indonesian	jambu mente, jambu mete

With world production in 2000 at about 2 million tonnes of nuts-in-shell and an estimated value in excess of US\$2 billion, the cashew industry ranks third in the world production of edible nuts. India and Brazil are the major cashew exporters, with 60

percent and 31 percent respectively of world market share. The major importers are the United States (55 percent), the Netherlands (ten percent), Germany (seven percent), Japan (five percent) and the United Kingdom (five percent).

### 2.1 Objective of the Study:

The objectives of this study are

- To analyse the Area, Production and Yield of Cashew nuts in India.
- To analyse the export trends in cashew nuts in India.

### 2.2 Scope of the Study:

India is the largest producer and exporter of cashew kernels in the world. Nearly 60% of the world export of cashew kernels in the year 2001 is accounted for by India. Indian cashews are consumed in as many as 40 countries all over the world. The major markets are USA, UK, Japan, Netherlands', Australia, Canada, Germany, Honkong, Singapore, New Zealand and middle east countries. Indian cashew kernel is acclaimed for its better quality appearance and taste.

Earlier raw cashew nuts hardly figured in the world trade because in India, kernels were processed entirely from the raw nuts produced within the country. While the processing industries are heavily dependent on the imported raw nuts in the country. India and Brazil are the major cashew exports with 60 and 31% respectively of the world market share Vietnam has emerged as a major competitor to India in international cashew trade. The raw nut production is estimated at over 6 lakh tones and given this trend, Vietnam may attain the first position as the world supplier of cashew kernel. There has been an increase of 128 percent and 13.2 percent in the volume of export of cashew kernels and cashew nut shell liquid respectively. The value of export of cashew kernels has also increased considerably. There has been a decline in the exports during 2005 – 06 from the country due to the increased availability in the world market at low prices.

### 2.3 Limitations of the Study:

The following are the limitations of the study.

- There is no comparison between exports of cashew nut from India with that of other countries.
- The study does not cover the production process of cashew kernels in different part of India.

### 2.4 Review of Literature:

A comprehensive review of related concepts used in earlier helps one to adopt, modify and improve a link with the past approaches. Furthermore, it gives a clear picture of the objects and phenomenon and brings clarity in making inferences and permits comparison with other studies with similar concepts. Hence, an attempts is made in this chapter to review the earlier studies and specify the concepts used and adopted in the present study.

### III Analysis and Interpretation:

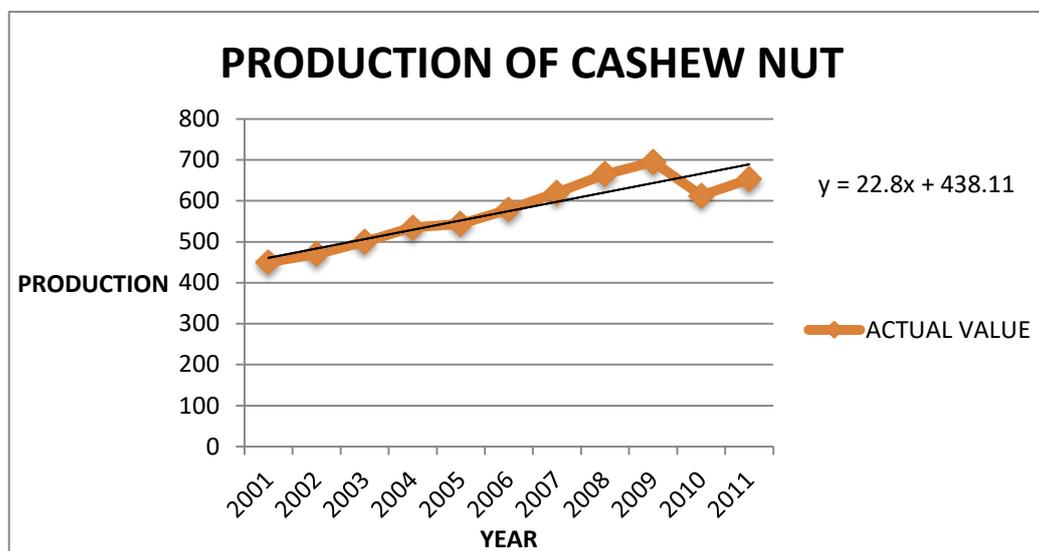
This chapter discusses the production of cashew nuts in India for the decade 2001-2011. The quantum of export of cashew nuts from India is also studied here for the same period. The long term trends in production and area under cultivation is also analysed.

**Table No. 3.1**  
Production of cashew nuts in India for the period 2001-2011

Years	Production (in '000 tonnes)	Growth Rate	Trend Values
2001	450	-	461
2002	470	4	484
2003	500	6	507
2004	535	7	529
2005	544	2	552
2006	579	6	575
2007	620	7	598
2008	665	7	621
2009	695	5	643
2010	613	-12	666
2011	653	7	689

The cashew production in India has increased steadily except in 2010 when the growth rate is -12. There has been an overall increase of 253 thousand tonnes over the decade. The secular trend for cashew nut production has been fitted with the help of the method of least squares and this is presented in Diagram No. 3.1

Secular trend for production of cashew nuts in India for the period 2001-2011



There is a secular increase in cashew nut production in India. The annual average rate of increase is 22.8 thousand tonnes. Using the trend line, it has been estimated that the production of cashew nuts for the year 2015 will be 78,010 tonnes. The increase in production of cashew nuts is the result of an increase in area under cashew cultivation.

#### IV FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS:

1. It is found that there is direct relationship between area under cashew cultivation and production of cashew nuts.
2. There is indirect relation between area under cashew cultivation and yield of cashew nuts. The high price for cashew nuts in the international market and the incentives given by the government for export promotion has attracted cashew cultivation even in less than ideal conditions. This has led to a fall in productivity.
3. There continues to be an increase in the area under cashew cultivation in spite of falling productivity. Thus, it is seen that price determines the area under cultivation of this crop. Therefore, it is deduced that price of cashew nuts and area under cashew cultivation has a direct relationship.

#### 4.1 SUGGESTIONS:

Against the backdrop of endowments of various favourable factors such as availability of cheap labour and huge demand for cashew nuts in India, it offers tremendous potential for increased production and exports. The suggestions are made to increase production of cashew nuts in India.

1. Increasing the indigenous production of raw cashew nuts by applying advanced technologies in cashew cultivation.
2. The government should give proper training to the farmers which can help them to increase productivity.
3. Setting up of more quality laboratories for testing the quality of cashew products in India.
4. Intensifying export promotion efforts in major markets.
5. Exploring new market for exports.

#### V CONCLUSION:

Cashew nut has a significant social and economic importance in the economy. Cashew nut is directly connected to the growth of the economy as India earns foreign exchange by exporting it. However, areas ideally suited for the growth of this crop is limited. The government should ensure that such areas are not encroached upon by household settlements and other agrarian industries.

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