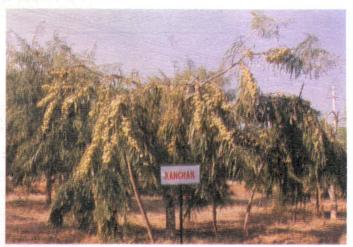
R.K. Pathak, S.K. Shukla, R.A. Ram and D. Pandey

Cultivating aonla organically

Organically-produced aonla is superior in quality to that of produced with use of chemicals and pesticides. Attempts at CISH, Lucknow, are underway to evaluate the efficacy of *Panchgavya*, *Rishi Krishi* and *Agnihotra Krishi* and their integrations for organic aonla production.





Organically-grown aonla in agroforestry (left) and trees in full bearing (right) stage

A ONLA is a highly remunerative fruit crop. About Rs 40,000–200,000 can be obtained from one hectare of its cultivation.

Improved cultivars

Narendra Aonla 4 (Kanchan): It is preferred by industry for pulp extraction and preparation of various products.

Narendra Aonla 5 (Krishna):An early-maturing variety with low fibre content, it is ideal for preparing preserve, candy and juice.

Narendra Aonla 6: Excellent and prolific-bearing, it is suitable for making preserve, candy and jam.

Narendra Aonla 7: A precocious and prolific-bearing, it is well-suited for making Chyavanprash, chutney and squash.

GROWING ORGANIC AONLA

Organically-produced aonla is

superior in quality as compared to that produced with the use of chemicals and pesticides. Now attempts at CISH, Lucknow, are underway to evaluate the efficacy of *Panchgavya*, *Rishi Krishi* and *Agnihotra Krishi* and their integrations for organic aonla production.

Some steps . . .

- Remove dead, over-crossing branches and galled shoots, if any.
- Apply nutrients in January– February.
- Clean the main trunk by rubbing with gunny bags.
- Paste cowdung as a thick paste on main trunk and base of main branches.
- Spray BD 500 preparation on basin in appropriate constellation.

- Apply 25 kg BD or vermicompost and 100 g cow pat pit (CPP).
- Mulch the basin with locally available organic waste, i.e. paddy straw, sugarcane trash, banana leaves, etc.
- Spray BD-501 (2 times) and need-based spray of BD liquid pesticides.

SUMMARY

Organic aonla no doubt will be a boon to users the world over. It will fetch higher price to farmers also.

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