FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDERUTILIZATION OF COCCINIA GRANDIS AND LUFFA ACTANGULA IN JAMMU

Geeta Sharma

Department of Botany, University of Jammu, Jammu-180 006
Email: geetaji@yahoo.com

Abstracts: Cucurbitaceae though known world-wide on account of having broadly grown taxa such as Cucumis sativus (cucumber), Citrullus lanatus (water melon) and Cucumis melo (melon) that are consumed on a large scale (Jeffrey 1980), it also contains some lesser known species that are rich in minerals and vitamins. Coccinia grandis (L.) Voigt (syn. C. indica) and Luffa actangula (L.) Roxb. are the two such species (Kalloo and Bergh 1993; Rai et al. 2008). These provide prized vegetables, have the ability to grow in habitats that are generally inhospitable to other plants and are not taken by stray animals on account of having herbivory-deterrent compounds. Despite having potential to supplement world’s food / medicinal basket, these have remained underutilized particularly in Jammu region. Present communication describes the factors responsible for less utilization of C. grandis (syn. C. indica) and L. actangula in Jammu (Sharma and Kachroo 1981).

Keywords: Coccinia grandis, Luffa actangula, Jammu

REFERENCES


