

15<sup>th</sup> ACA Annual Cashew Conference



# A SUSTAINABLE CASHEW SUPPLY CHAIN FOR THE FUTURE



*Fully Online*



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**Importance of Cashew Breeding and  
Development of Varieties for Sustainable Cashew  
Production in the Context of Climate Change and  
Health Pandemics**

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# Importance of Cashew Breeding

## 1. Increase Productivity

Obtain higher yields and good nut quality

## 2. Develop Resistant Varieties

Resistance or tolerance to major diseases, insect-pests

## 3. Develop Varieties with wide Adaptability

Wider environmental adaptability (drought, soil types)

# Increase Productivity

## Yield and Nut quality

- High yielding (dwarf, common) 10-100kg/tree
- Nut Weight >7g
- Nut shape to fit in processing technology
- Easy separation of apple from nut
- Higher Shelling % (>25%)
- Easy peeling of testa
- High Kernel Grades (WW180, 210, 240)



# Disease Resistance

- *Leaf & Nut Blight and Powdery mildew*



# Insect-pest Resistance

- Helopeltis bugs



# Insect-pest Resistance

- Aeroplane and Coconut bugs



# Adaptability

- Drought resistance
  - Suitable to various soil types, rainfalls, altitudes etc
- Less pesticides



# Constraints in Cashew Breeding

- Not easy as it is in annual crops
- Needs scientist to be more patient
- Takes many years to develop variety (10-20)
- Requires large area for experimentation
- Requires a lot of human resources
- Requires a lot of financial resources
- Selection criteria needs to be observed with extra care as mistakes cannot be corrected!!!



# Conclusion

Development of new cashew varieties is very important due to the following:-

- Cope with climate change
- To fit/suit to new processing technologies
- Resistance to new diseases/insect-pests to avoid use of pesticides
- To address kernel market demand
  - Higher grades

