

B-15: Preliminary assessment of rambutan cultivars in Sri Lanka

I Medagoda

(Horticultural Research & Development Institute, Gannoruwa, Peradeniya)

In the 1940s and later years, a number of cultivars were introduced to Sri Lanka to determine the cultivars with the best combination of fruit quality and productivity. Five Java cultivars *viz.* Java Sinjonjan, Java Simatjan, Java Special, Java Labukabola, Java Seedless, 3 Malaysian cultivars, *viz.* Malaysean Red, Malaysian Yellow, Che Embon and 2 Local selections *viz.* Malwana Selection I, and Kumaragala were assessed for quality and productivity. Of these 10 varieties, "Malwana Selection I" was identified as the best entry. However, the fruits of Malaysian Red, Malaysian Yellow and

Java Special showed consumer preferable characteristics. All these 4 cultivars have the characteristic of free stone. Highest Brix value (23) was observed in Java and others were between 17-20. Yields were satisfactory in all the cultivars.