

HRMN-99 - New Apple Variety for Tropical, Sub-tropical and Plain Areas

By : Mr. Hariman Sharma, Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh

Innovation Description

Mr. Hariman Sharma from Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh is a well-known farmer for the promotion of low chilling apple cultivation in plain areas. He developed the HRMN-99, an innovative apple variety that can be cultivated in tropical, sub-tropical and plain areas where the temperature rises to 40 to 48 °C during summer.

Crop: Apple (*Malus domestica* (Suckow) Borkh.)

Salient features: Suitable for lower altitudes (1800 feet above mean sea level), Does not require intense chilling hours, Self-pollinating and regular bearing variety, Ready to harvest in early June (after three years of transplantation), Tolerant to scab disease.



Genesis: In 1999, Hariman noticed some apple seedlings in his backyard orchard. He transplanted healthier sapling selectively. In 2001, five plants produced different type of fruits. He selected one and in the second year, he took some branches and grafted them on a plum tree. The grafting was successful and the fruit quality was also enhanced. In 2003-05 he collected different types of stocks and some crab apple seedlings from Shimla and grafted the same and finalized better graft for the area. He created a mini orchard of apple trees that are continue to bear fruits today.

Harvesting period: June-July