Title Longan Production in Guangxi

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Abstract

Located in South China, at 20°54' - - 26°23' N and 104°29' - - 112°04' E, Guangxi Hhuang Autonomous Region enjoins a subtropical monsoon humid climate with abundant rainfall and annual mean temperature 20.3°C. Guanxi is one of the main longan producing areas in China. In the past 20 years, the total growing area of longan in the region increased dramatically from 7,800ha in 1986 to 225,700ha in 2002. According to the statistics, the total planting area of longan in 2005 is 172,900ha with a production of 381,700 ton, ranging the first and the second in China, respectively. Longan mainly distributed in Congzuo, Yulin, Qinzhou, Nanning and Guigang cities in Guangxi. The main varieties of longan grew here are Shixia, Chuliang, Dawuyuan and Guangyan which account for 50%, 16.67%, 13.89% and 5.56% of the longan production in Guangxi, respectively. The others occupied 13.89%. The harvest season for longan in Guangxi lasted from late-July to mid-August. Recently, Guangxi has made great progress in longan production popularizing cultivation techniques of nursing fruit bearing shoots of good quality, controlling winter flushes and stimulating flower bud differentiation, protecting flowers and fruits, thinning flowers and fruits, fertilizing and pruning. Whereas, Guangxi longan industry is still facing problems of short harvest period, low price, inadequate in post harvest management and marketing and biennial fruiting. Guangxi longan industry should be improved by adjusting variety structure by means of increasing the planting area of early season varieties and late season varieties, increasing orchard input, improving marketing system and popularizing cultivation techniques for high yield and good quality fruits.