

## GUAVA

*Psidium guajava* Linn.

### Cultivar:

**L-49 (Lucknow-49):** It is a prolific bearer, greenish yellow with milky white sweet pulp and rough surface. Shell is fairly thick, containing few fairly soft seeds in the inner portion of pulp. Since the number of seeds is less, keeping quality is medium. It is suitable for table purpose and yields about 25 t/ha.

**Allahabad Safeda:** Tree is medium in height (5.8-6.5 m) with vigorous branching and dense foliage. Fruits are medium in size (180 g), round in shape with few seeds. Fruit is white fleshed with good keeping quality. This variety is suitable for **table purposes**.

**Chittidar:** The Chittidar is similar to the Safeda except that it has many pinkish red dots, the size of a pinhead on the surface of the fruit.

**Arka Mridula:** Plants are semi-tall in nature and spreading. Fruits are round in shape and weigh about 180 g. Skin is yellow, smooth and white in colour. The TSS is around 12 °Brix. Fruits are soft seeded and have a good keeping quality. It is good for processing due to high pectin content (1.041%).

**Lalit:** Fruits (185-200 g) are saffron yellow in colour with red blush, pulp firm and pink in colour with a good blend of sugar and acid. TSS of 12° Brix and vitamin C content 250 mg per 100 g pulp. Fruits are suitable for both table purpose as well as processing. Pink colour of the beverage remains stable for more than a year in storage. This variety yields 100 kg/plant/year, higher than any other commercial guava variety. Responsive to pruning, suitable for high density plantings and is adopted in meadow orchards.

**Soil:** Well drained loamy soil

**Propagation:** Air layering during rainy seasons (April-August)

**Time of Planting:** May to June.

**Planting Distance:** 4-5 m x 4-5 m

### Manure and Fertilizer:

20-30 kg FYM, 260 g N, 320 g P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and 260 g K<sub>2</sub>O/plant/ year in two split doses in February-March and September-October.

### Pruning:

Sprouts arising from the base of the trunk should be removed immediately.

### Shoot Bending:

The straight branches may be bent and tied on the pegs driven to the ground. In bent branches dormant buds are activated and induced to bear flowers and fruits heavily.

**Plant Protection:**

- 1. Fruit fly:** Destruction or burn the infected fruits. Apply methyl eugenol trap @ 20 trap/ha from the time of fruiting.
- 2. Wilt:** Drench the soil with chlorothalonil 75WP (0.2% i.e. 2 g/ltr of water) and spray the plant with trifloxystrobin 25 WP @ 1 g/ltr of water at an interval of 15 days in the early stage of infection.

**Harvesting:**

Layered plants start bearing at the age of 2 to 3 years. Mature or half-ripe fruits are harvested by hand picking.

**Yield:** Average yield is 75 to 175 kg/plant/year

**Benefit: cost ratio:** 4.20 for bearing plants