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Jasmine Unveiled: From Gardens to Global Industry and Market Devanshu Shukla¹, *Krishna Kaushik², Abhay Vedwan¹, Mahima Sharma¹

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Tasmine, also known as "the queen of fragrance," is a popular flowering plant that is highly **J** prized for its delicate scent and lovely appearance. It is grown for its ornamental value as well as for its essential oil, which is used in perfumes, cosmetics, and aromatherapy. Jasmine is a highly fragrant flower that is widely cultivated and used in India for various purposes. In this article, we will explore the importance of Jasmine flower in the economy of India.

Jasmine flower cultivation in India

Jasmine cultivation is a popular and profitable business in India, where the flower is highly prized for its fragrance and ornamental value. Jasmine flower is mainly cultivated in the southern states of India, including Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala. The most common types of jasmine cultivated in India are the Madurai Malli and the Mysore Malli. The Madurai Malli is grown in Tamil Nadu and is highly valued for its fragrance, while the Mysore Malli is grown in Karnataka and is used for making garlands and floral decorations. Jasmine is a tropical plant that thrives in warm and humid conditions. It requires a well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. The ideal soil pH range is 6.0 and 7.5. The plant requires full sun to partial shade, and it is important to protect it from frost and strong winds. There are several varieties of jasmine that are cultivated in India, including Arabian jasmine (Jasminum sambac), Indian jasmine (Jasminum grandiflorum), and Spanish jasmine (Jasminum odoratissimum). Arabian jasmine is the most commonly cultivated variety in India.

The importance of jasmine in Indian culture

Jasmine has a special place in Indian culture and tradition. It is considered a symbol of purity, love, and devotion, and is used in many religious ceremonies and festivals. Jasmine garlands and flowers are often used to decorate temples, homes, and public places during festivals and celebrations and also used as nutraceuticals values. The oil extracted from jasmine flowers is used in aromatherapy.

Cultural and Religious Significance

- Symbolism: Jasmine is often associated with love, purity, spirituality, and good luck in
- Religious ceremonies: Jasmine flowers are widely used in religious ceremonies, offerings to deities, and adorning sacred spaces.
- Festivals and celebrations: Jasmine garlands and decorations are common during festivals, weddings, and other auspicious occasions.
- Traditional medicine: Different parts of the jasmine plant are used in Ayurveda and traditional medicine for various ailments.

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Economic Importance

- Floriculture industry: Jasmine cultivation is a significant part of the floriculture industry in India, providing livelihoods to many farmers and traders.
- Essential oil production: Jasmine flowers are a source of valuable essential oil used in perfumes, cosmetics, and aromatherapy.
- Jasmine tea: Jasmine flowers are used to flavor tea, which is a popular beverage in India and has health benefits.

Health and Well-being

- Aromatherapy: The sweet fragrance of jasmine is known for its calming and mood-lifting properties, often used in aromatherapy to reduce stress and anxiety.
- Antioxidant properties: Jasmine contains antioxidants that can help protect the body against cell damage.
- Potential medicinal uses: Some studies suggest jasmine may have benefits for liver health, digestion, and skin conditions, though more research is needed.



(Source- Netmed.com)

Other Uses

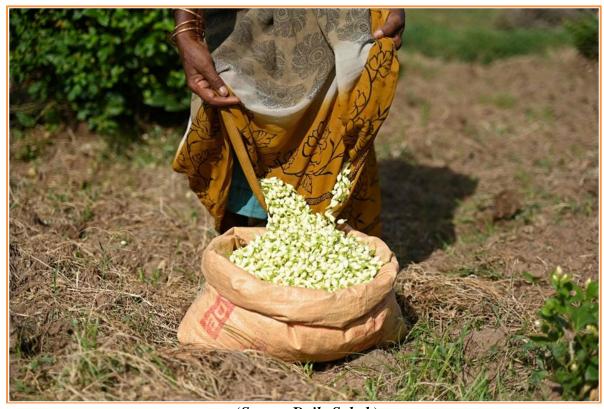
- Food flavoring: Jasmine is used to flavor various foods, including desserts, candies, and beverages.
- Skincare: Jasmine extracts are used in skincare products for their moisturizing, anti-inflammatory, and potential anti-aging properties.
- Haircare: Jasmine oil is sometimes used to promote hair growth and improve hair health.



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The economic significance of jasmine in India

The cultivation and sale of jasmine flowers are an important source of income for many farmers and traders in India. According to a report by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, jasmine cultivation is spread over an area of 47,000 hectares in India, with an annual production of around 54,000 tonnes. Tamil Nadu is the largest producer of jasmine in India. In 2021-2022, the state's jasmine production was 180.67 thousand tonnes. Karnataka is the second-largest producer, with a production of 23.88 thousand tonnes in the same period. Andhra Pradesh ranks third, producing 22.24 thousand tonnes in 2021-2022. Other significant jasmine-producing states include Gujarat, Assam, and Madhya Pradesh.



(Source-Daily Sabah)

The demand for jasmine flowers is high in India, particularly during the festival season. The flower is also exported to other countries, where it is used in perfumes, cosmetics, and other products. The jasmine industry in India has created employment opportunities for thousands of people. Jasmine is an economically significant crop in India, where it is highly valued for its fragrance and ornamental value.

India is one of the largest exporters of jasmine flowers and essential oil in the world. The export of jasmine contributes significantly to the foreign exchange earnings of India. Jasmine cultivation provides employment opportunities for a large number of people in India, especially in rural areas. Farmers, laborers, and traders are involved in various aspects of jasmine cultivation. Jasmine cultivation is a profitable business in India, with high demand for the flowers and essential oil both domestically and internationally. Jasmine is a popular flower in India, and it is used in religious and cultural ceremonies. The beauty and fragrance of jasmine flowers also attract tourists. Jasmine essential oil has medicinal properties and is used in aromatherapy and traditional medicine in India.

1. Income Generation and Livelihoods

• Source of Income: Jasmine cultivation serves as a primary or supplementary income source for numerous households, particularly small and marginal farmers in states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.

It can contribute up to 40% of a household's total income, with higher earnings during peak seasons.

- **Employment:** The labor-intensive nature of jasmine cultivation, from planting and maintenance to harvesting, creates employment opportunities, especially for women in rural areas.
- **Rural Development:** By providing a steady income and employment, jasmine cultivation plays a vital role in poverty reduction and overall rural development.



(Source- The Hindu)

2. Floriculture Industry and Trade:

- Commercial Crop: Jasmine is a significant commercial flower crop in India, holding cultural, religious, and social importance.
- **Domestic Market:** There's a strong domestic demand for jasmine in India for various uses, including religious offerings, garlands, hair adornment, and perfumes.
- **Export Market:** India is a major exporter of jasmine flowers, with a growing demand in Gulf countries, Singapore, and other regions known for their appreciation of its fragrance. This export trade contributes to foreign exchange earnings.
- Essential Oil Extraction: Jasmine flowers are used to extract essential oils, which have high value in the perfumery, cosmetics, and aromatherapy industries, further boosting the economic value of jasmine production.

3. Economic Benefits:

- **High Returns:** Jasmine cultivation can provide impressive returns to farmers compared to traditional crops, making it a viable agribusiness option.
- **Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship:** Floriculture, including jasmine cultivation, promotes self-employment and entrepreneurship in both rural and urban areas.
- **Increased Spending:** The income generated from jasmine cultivation leads to increased spending in local economies, further stimulating economic activity.

4. Government Support:

• The Indian government recognizes the potential of the floriculture industry and has implemented policies to support its growth, including jasmine cultivation. This support can include subsidies, infrastructure development, and promotion of exports.

Challenges and Constraints

While jasmine cultivation offers significant economic benefits, there are also challenges that need to be addressed:

- Market Dependence: Farmers often rely on middlemen for selling their produce, which can lead to lower profits due to lack of market awareness and potential exploitation.
- **Price Volatility:** The price of jasmine flowers can fluctuate significantly, leading to income instability for farmers.
- **Perishability:** Jasmine flowers are highly perishable, requiring efficient marketing and transportation systems to minimize losses.
- **Production Challenges:** Farmers may face issues like the non-availability of labor and credit, adverse climate conditions, high establishment costs, and pest and disease incidence.

Cultivation of jasmine

Jasmine can be grown well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. The plant requires full sun to partial shade, and it is important to protect it from frost and strong winds. Jasmine can be propagated from seeds, cuttings, or layering.

Seeds: Jasmine seeds should be soaked in water for at least 24 hours before sowing. They should be sown in a seedling tray or directly in the ground in late spring or early summer. The seeds should be covered with a thin layer of soil, and the soil should be kept moist until the seeds germinate.

Cuttings: Jasmine cuttings can be taken in the late summer or early autumn. The cuttings should be around 10-15 cm long, dipped in rooting hormone before being planted in a well-drained potting mix and pot is covered with thin plastic bag/layer to maintain humidity and it placed at warm spot. After a few weeks, the cuttings should have rooted and can be transplanted to their final growing location.

Layering: Jasmine can also be propagated by layering. This involves bending a low-hanging stem down to the ground and covering it with soil. Once the roots have developed, the stem can be cut from the parent plant and transplanted to its final growing location.

Harvesting: Jasmine blooms in the late spring or early summer. The flowers should be picked early in the morning when they are at their most fragrant. The flowers can be used fresh or dried for use in teas, potpourris, or essential oils. Boric acid is also used to kept fresh and fragrant flower for 72 hours specially in *Jasminum*. *Sambac*.

Conclusion

jasmine holds a significant place in Indian culture, where it is revered for its beauty, fragrance, and symbolism. Its use in religious and spiritual ceremonies, traditional medicine, and ornamental decorations reflects its importance in Indian heritage and tradition. jasmine is an economically significant crop in India, contributing to the country's foreign exchange earnings, providing employment opportunities, generating income for growers, attracting tourists, and contributing to the health and well-being of the people. The high demand for jasmine flowers and essential oil both domestically and internationally makes it a profitable business for growers, and its use in culture and tradition has made it an important part of Indian heritage.

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