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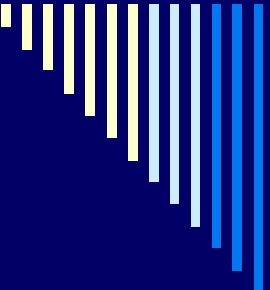


**BANANA**

*in*

**ASSAM**

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**The uniqueness of banana sector in Assam, a natural home of this crop, is its diverse characteristics – i.e. varietal strength – numbering 15 to 20 which are either cultivated or partially domesticated or still in wild form. Some of the excellent traits of these varieties may be lucrative for the breeders – but these crops are for us awaiting commercialization and value addition. They are being cultivated mostly as home-stead crop in an area of 42,104 ha. which annually produces 5,80,995 MT of raw banana - more than 60 to 70 percent as marketable surplus.**

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## **VARIETAL SITUATION**

**The North-Eastern region has diverse forms of indigenous banana clones; most common indigenous cultivated banana are under the genomic group AAA, AAB and ABB. The region is endowed with wild *balbisiana* diploid (BB). Some of the important cultivars grown in this region and their characters are given in next slides.**

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## **JHAJI (AAA)**

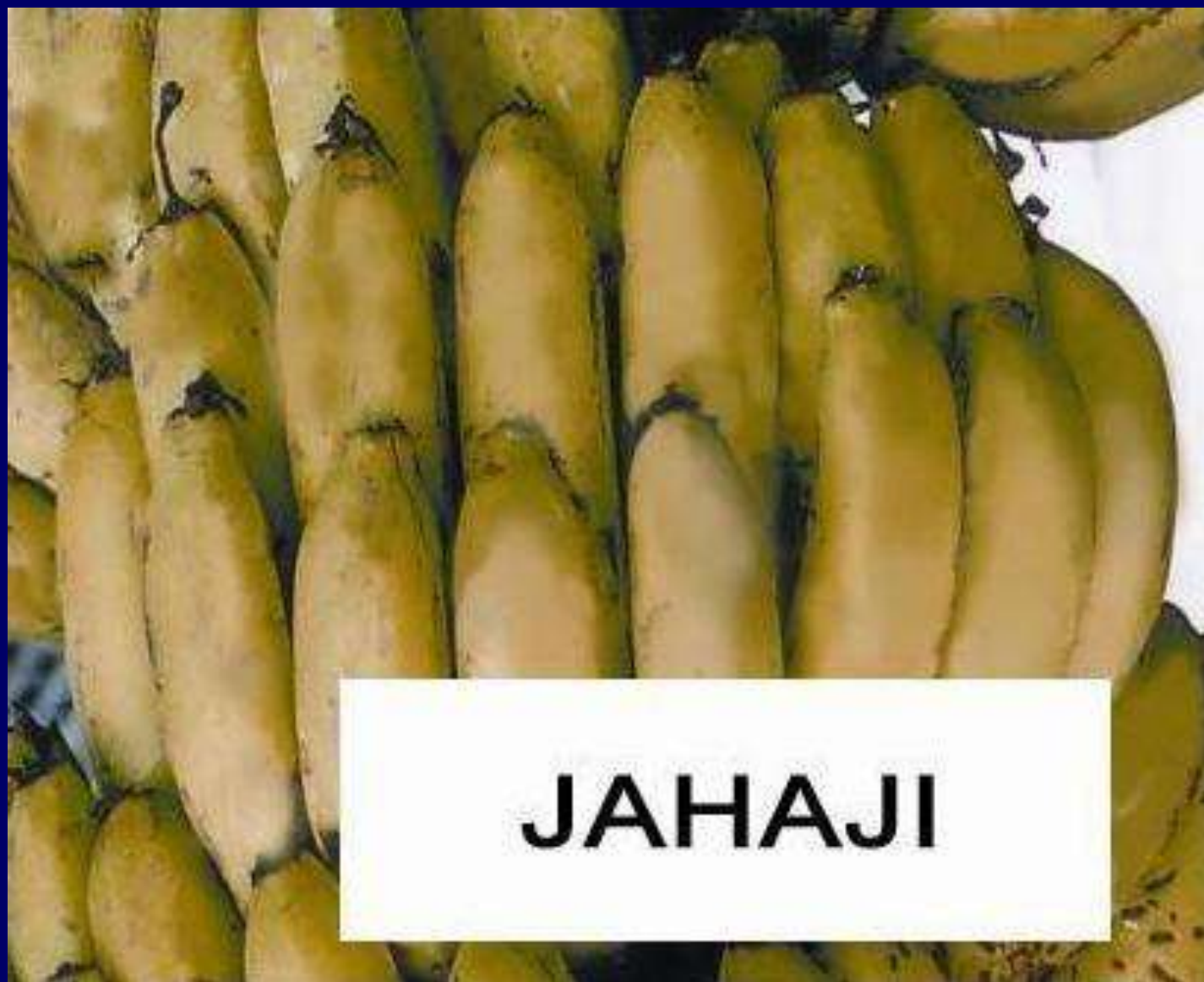
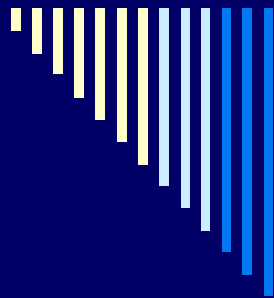
**Plant dwarf statured;**

**Duration around 340 days;**

**Average bunch weight 20 kg;**

**TSS 20%.**

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**JAHAJI**



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## **BAR JHAJI (AAA)**

**Plant medium tall;**

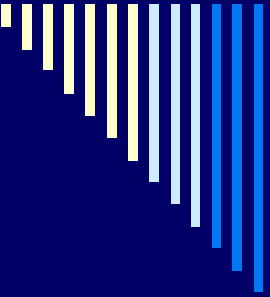
**Duration more than a year;**

**Fruits retain greenish colour even after ripening;**

**Average bunch weight around 25 kg;**

**TSS 21%.**

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**BAR JAHAJI**

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## **CHENICHAMPA (AAB)**

**Plant is medium tall;**

**Duration around 370 days;**

**Average bunch weight 15 kg;**

**TSS 18 - 20%.**

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**CHENICHAMPA**



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## **MALBHOG (AAB)**

**Plant is medium tall;**

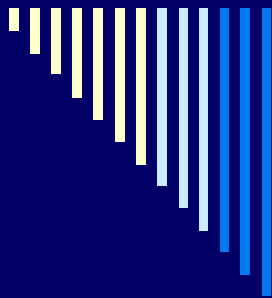
**Duration around 380 days;**

**Grown mainly in sandy loam soil  
and in foot hills;**

**Bunch weight 15 kg;**

**TSS 22%.**

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**MALBHOG**



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## **PURAKAL (ABB)**

**Extensively grown for culinary purposes;**

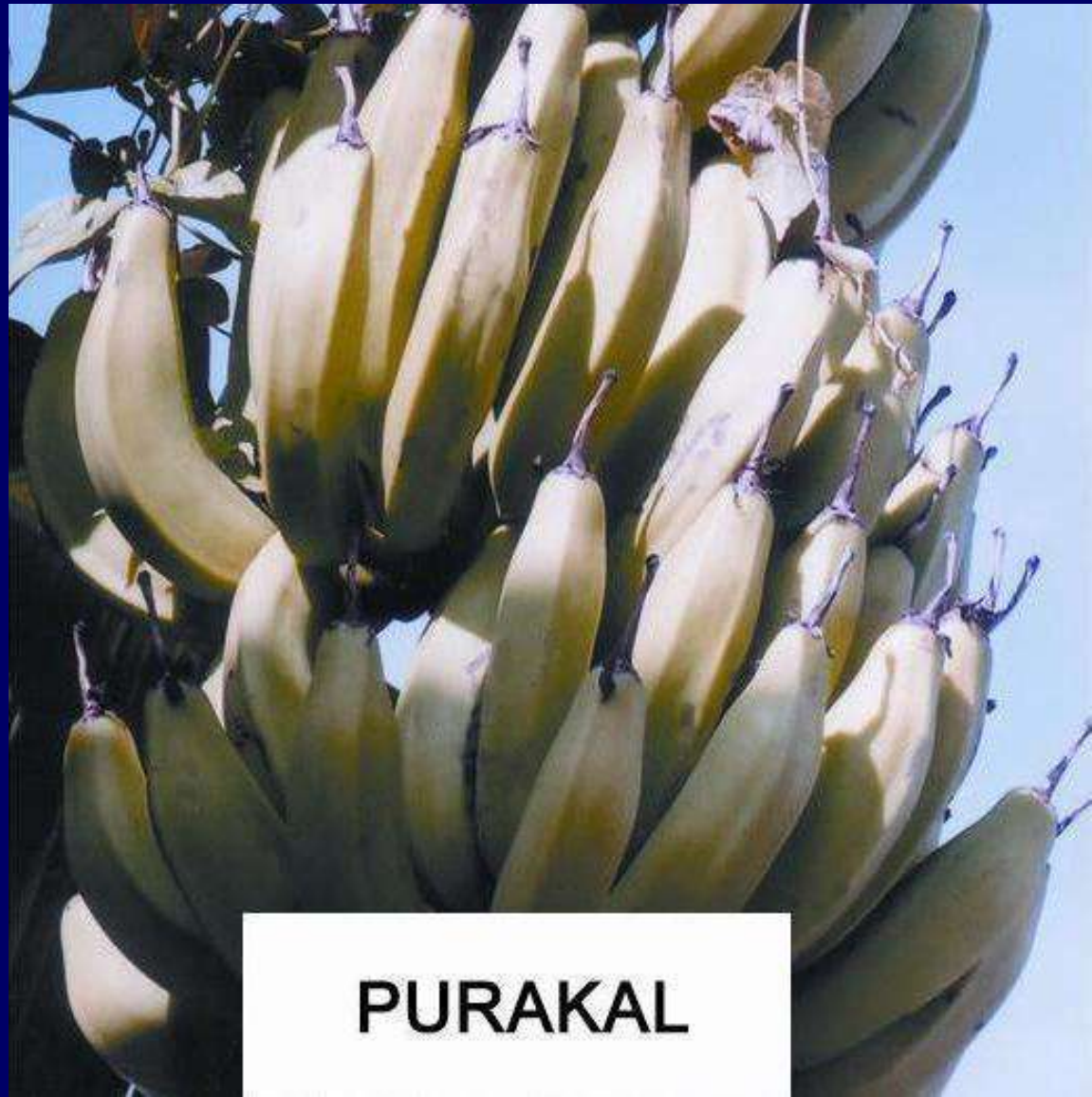
**Plant is medium tall;**

**Duration around 380 days;**

**Bunch weight around 15 kg;**

**‘Kach Kal’ (ABB) almost similar to ‘Pura Kal’.**

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**PURAKAL**



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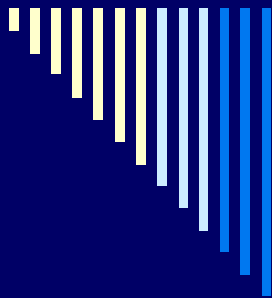
## **BHIMKAL (BB)**

**The plant very tall and robust,  
seeded, resistant to all pests and  
diseases;**

**Average bunch weight 30 kg;**

**TSS 25%.**

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**BHIMKAL**



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## **HONDA (AAB)**

**Grown in the plain region;**

**Medium in height;**

**Duration around 420 days;**

**Fruits are short and large;**

**Average bunch weight 16.5 kg;**

**TSS 18.5%.**

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**HONDA**





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## **BHARATMANI (AAA)**

**The peel turns attractive yellow at ripening with green patches at the tip of the fruit;**

**Plant is medium tall;**

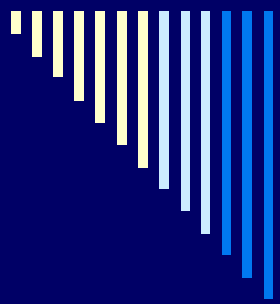
**Duration 420 days;**

**Average bunch weight 13.5 kg.;**

**Fruit angular, short and large, pulp yellowish;**

**TSS 19.5%.**

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## **KANAIBANSI (AA)**

**Plant height medium;**

**Duration around 405 days;**

**Long fruits;**

**Average bunch weight more than  
20 kg.**

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**KANAIBANSI**



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## **SAAPKAL (AAB)**

**Grown in the foot-hills;**

**Plant height medium;**

**Crop duration around 400 days;**

**Average bunch weight 18 kg;**

**TSS 20.17%.**

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**SAAPKAL**



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## **GARO MOINA (AAA)**

**Grown in hills;**

**Plant medium dwarf;**

**Average bunch weight 17.65 kg;**

**TSS 15.33%.**

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## **HATIDAT (AAA)**

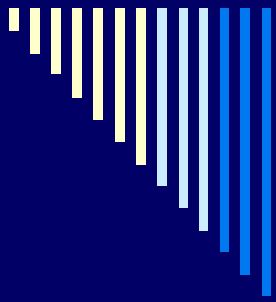
**Medium in height;**

**Attractive fruit colour;**

**Average duration 396 days;**

**Bunch weight 16.5 kg.**

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**HATIDAT**



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# **Status of Disease & Pest of Banana**

**Major Diseases** - **Bunchy Top**  
**Leaf Spot**

**Major Pests** - **Fruit scarring beetle**  
**Pseudo-stem borer**

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# Uses of banana in Assam

- ◆ an integral part of typical Assamese dishes used as vegetables;
  - ◆ *Khaar* (Ash) made from banana is a bio-antacid;
  - ◆ as dish, wrapping, packing material etc;
  - ◆ as rescue boat by tying 3 to 4 pseudo-stems by marooned people;
  - ◆ as baby food by mixing with rice flour;
  - ◆ media for preparing vermi-compost;
  - ◆ as inter-crop along with other plantation;
  - ◆ as ingredient for beer making.
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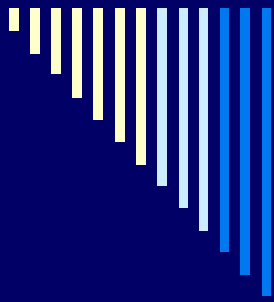
## **Banana as thrust crop under Horticulture Technology Mission**

- ✓ **already covered more than one thousand hectare under modern cultivation practices.**
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## **Where lies the strength ?**

- **The crop is bound to be happy when there is rich soil and abundant rainfall.**
  - **Wide range of varietal options - each having its own beauty.**
  - **Existence of biggest banana market at Darrangiri in Goalpara district. Already a hot spot for middle man / external traders.**
  - **It is one hundred percent organic.**
  - **Existence of strong R&D infrastructure.**
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- **Existence of Tissue culture laboratory for large-scale propagation.**
- **Domestic market is lucrative but can be spring-board for export.**
- **Excellent atmosphere for investment in processing sector - supported by central and state incentives.**
- **Cheap labour.**