»Apple Farming (Complete Guide) | How to grow tree Apple at Home | Apple Cultivation«

»Apple Farming (Complete Guide) | How to grow tree Apple at Home | Apple Cultivation«

Apple farming is an old established and profitable enterprise. It is the most important and fourth widely produced temperate fruit in the world after bananas, oranges and grapes.
On average farmers harvest 20000-30000 apples per acre. Farmers mainly cultivate apples to earn higher yield and income and can set up small scale enterprises to produce apple juice, jelly, jam, and pie. Just like kiwi farming, it requires precise knowledge, investment and time. Apples require well drained loamy soil, rich in organic matter with a pH of 5.5-6.5 (avoid planting apple trees in waterlogged soil). The optimum temperature for growing apples is 21-240C and can be grown at an altitude of 1500-2700m above sea level with 1000-1500 chilling hours.

Climate and propagation

Well distributed annual rainfall of 100-125 cm is ideal for growth and fruiting. Excess rainfall and moisture can result in poor fruit quality and increases chances of fungal spots on apple surfaces.
The best time for propagation and planting of apples is early spring. Common methods of propagation are tongue grafting and t-budding. Alternatively, a farmer can purchase propagating materials from trusted agricultural stores.

Spacing and fertilizers

Around 200-1250 trees can be planted in one hectare, ranging from low to ultra high density population. Apply 10 kg of FYM

per age of tree for proper growth and development along with FYM (350 g), nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus (175 g) yearly, and irrigate newly propagated plants.

Pruning and harvesting

Timely training and pruning of apple trees are necessary for proper growth and productivity. Additionally, control of pests and diseases is crucial for fruit quality and plant growth. Apple trees bear fruits from the 8th year after planting and continue until the 30th year.
Apples are harvested when they have ripened uniformly, are firm and crispy. Depending on the cultivar, region and farming practices, apples yield 10-20 kg per tree, per year.