Geographical Indication Tag for Kanniyakumari clove

VIRONIKA

@vironika_om
(@vironika_om)

t.me/vironika_om

@vironikaom

vironika.studyiq@gmail.com

Tamilnadu's Kanniyakumari clove recently recieved the prestigious Geographical Indication Tag (GI Tag) by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks- who is the Registrar of Geographical Indications.

TAMIL NADU

Geographical Indication Tag for Kanniyakumari clove

P. Sudakar

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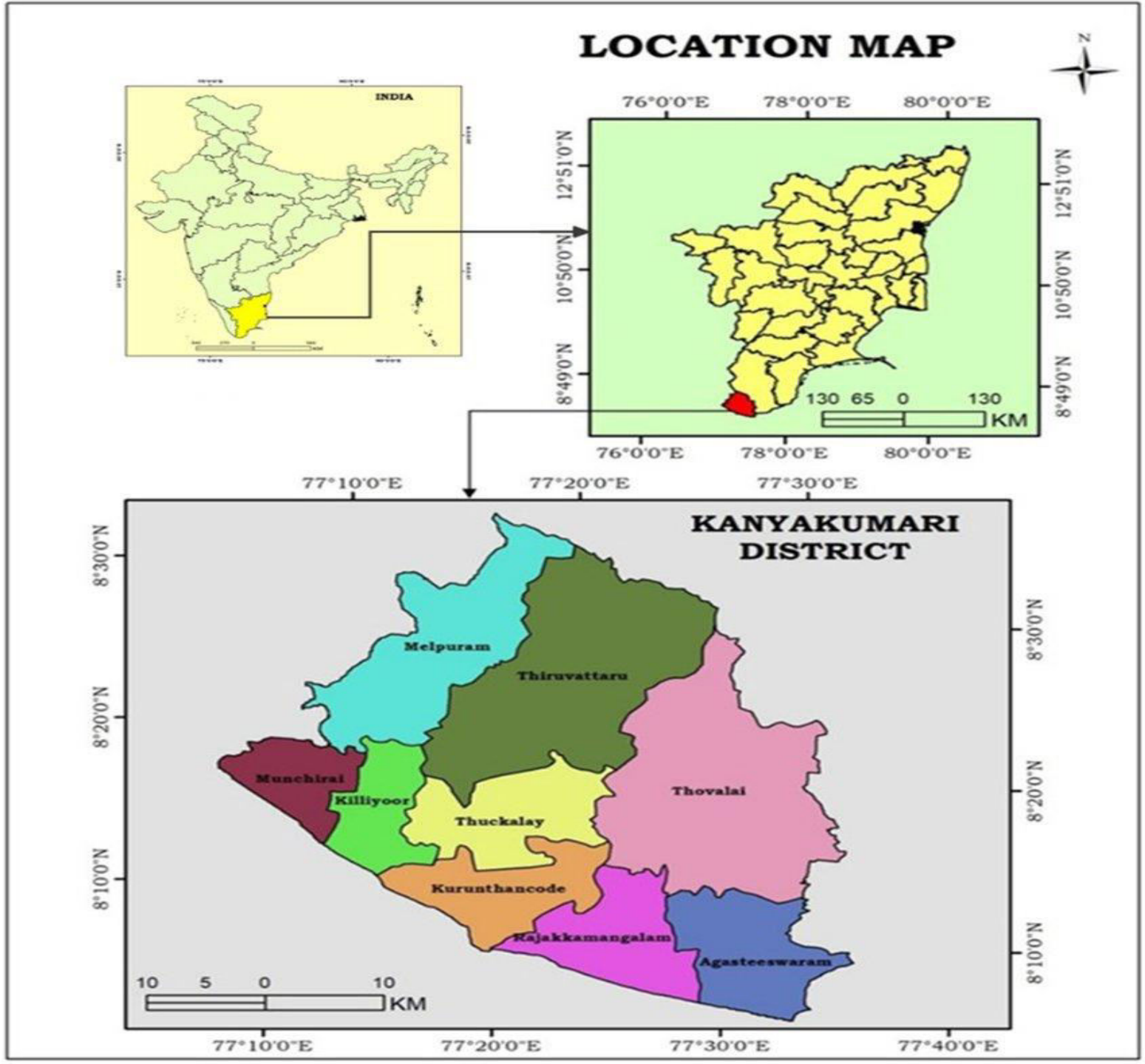
Clove, one of the prominent spice crops of the district, is grown on 760 hectares in the densely wooded areas of Maaraamalai, Blackrock and Velimalai in the Western Ghats of the Veerapuli Reserve Forests and Mahendragiri.


INDIA
WESTERN GHATS.
SRI LANKA


LOCATION MAP
INDIA
76°0'0"E
78°0'0"E
80°0'0"E
12°51'0"N
10°50'0"N
8°49'0"N
130 65 0 130
KM
77°10'0"E
77°20'0"E
77°30'0"E
77°40'0"E
8°30'0"N
8°20'0"N
8°10'0"N
KANYAKUMARI
DISTRICT
Melpuram
Thiruvattaru
Munchirai
Killiyoor
Thuckalay
Thovalai
Kurunthancode
Rajakkamangalam
Agasteeswaram
10 5 0 10
KM

- The district represents about 73% of the area under clove in Tamil Nadu.
- Of the total production of 1,100 tonnes of cloves in India, Tamil Nadu accounts for close to 1,000 tonnes, of which over 65% is grown in the district.

The climate in the hilly regions of Kanniyakumari district is ideal for clove cultivation. This region benefits from both the south-west and north-east monsoons. Also, the ‘sea mist’ comes in and works up the moisture needed for the crop. The black soil here, rich in organic nutrients, is suitable for clove cultivation. This makes the cloves grown in the region unique.

It is known as the “champion spice”, the evergreen clove tree (Syzygium aromaticum), related to eucalyptus, is native to the Spice Islands or the Maluku Islands in Indonesia.

- The plant is indigenous to North Molucca Islands of Indonesia.
- It is also grown in Zanzibar, Madagascar, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and India.
- The tree prefers well drained rich soil with sufficient soil moisture throughout the year.

High atmospheric temperature (25 to 35 degree C) with heavy sun light, good and well-distributed rainfall (above 150 cm) and high humidity (above 70%) are preferred.

- Meanwhile, cloves cultivated in Kanyakumari district is rich in Eugenol Acetate, a chemical that is highly available in essential oils.
- With the help of the Kanyakumari District Administration, the Maramalai Plantation Farmers' Association and the Karumpara Hill Farmers' Association have obtained the geographical indication- 'Kanyakumari Clove' as it is one of the highest quality cloves.

The flower buds, stalks and fallen leaves are used in essential oil preparation. The clove bud and its oils are also used in the medical, pharmaceutical and perfumery industries. The clove buds from Kanniyakumari is preferred for the presence of higher volatile oils.

Clove was introduced in India by the East India Company during the 1800s along the Courtalam high ranges of the erstwhile south Travancore region.

Clove Tree Cultivation

- Clove tree cultivation is a very long-term project that comes with long term benefits.
- It takes about seven to eight years, before one can even contemplate the first harvest.

- These trees cannot be grown in areas with a cool climate. Hot, humid, and relatively wet weather is are a prerequisite to grow cloves.
- The clove seeds are placed directly on the ground and do not need to be buried in the soil.
- Germination takes about 6 weeks following which the delicate seedlings begin to sprout.


BENEFITS OF CLOVE
FOR SKIN
Heals and prevents acne
Fights the signs of ageing
Fades dark spots
and blemishes

Health Benefits of Clove

- Helps with cough and cold symptoms
- Natural mouth freshener
- Fights Nausea
- Helps gastric upsets
- Avoids bloating
- Reduces mouth ulcers
- Fights tooth pain & bleeding gums
- Helps control high cholesterol levels
- Increases blood circulation
- Antiseptic

GI Tags of Tamil Nadu

Handicraft

- Salem Fabric
- Toda Embroidery
- Pattamadai Pai (Pattamadai Mats)
- Kancheepuram silk
- Bhavani Jamakkalam
- Madurai Sungudi
- Thanjavur painting
- Swamimalai Bronze Icons
- Mahabalipuram Stone Sculpture
- Arumbavur Wood Carvings
- Thanjavur Art Plate (Logo)
- Swamimalai Bronze Icons (Logo)
- Temple Jewellery of Nagercoil (Logo)
- Thanjavur Veenai (Tanjore Veena)
- Thanjavur Art Plate
- Temple decorations of Nagercoil
- Arani Silk
- Kovai Kora Cotton Saree
- Nachiarkoil Kuthuvilakku (Nachiarkoil Lamp)
- Salem Silk, known as Salem Venpattu

Manufactured

- Coimbatore Wet Grinder
- East India leather

Agricultural

- Malabar Pepper
- Eathomozhy Tall Coconut
- Erode Manjal (Erode Turmeric)
- Eucalyptus
- Madurai Malli
- Virupakshi banana
- Kodaikanal Malai Poondu
- Seeraga Samba Rice
- Pattamadai Pai ("Pattamadai Mat")
- Serumalai Hill Banana

Food stuff

- Chettinad Kottan
- Palani Panchamirtham
- Srivilliputtur Palkova
- Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai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Question:

Which one of the following is an active component of oil of clove?

(a) Menthol

(b) Eugenol

(c) Methanol

(d) Benzaldehyde