The use of lime calculator module

To calculate the lime requirement, the user has to get the soil tested for Lime requirement and use the lime calculator. The user has to enter the information such as pH value (obtained after testing the soil for lime requirement), the radius of the tree canopy, the liming material available for use, and the no. of trees per unit area or spacing.

The use of foliar nutrition calculator module

For calculating, the user has to enter the following information.

✦ Choose the nutrient to be applied as a foliar spray.
✦ Enter the information on the no. of trees or spacing & area in the plantation.
✦ Provide the age of the tree and the capacity of the tank being used for spraying/mixing fertilizer.

The other options available in the software

✦ Detailed information on different aspects of soil and foliar nutrient management in cashew.
✦ The software also enables the user to download soil health cards issued by ICAR-DCR, Puttur by inputting the details on Aadhar card number and year of soil test.
✦ The users can browse through different nutrient deficiency symptoms in cashew and get the information on remedial measures.

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Introduction

One of the major constraints in realizing the potential yield in cashew is the limited attention given by growers on nutrient management in cashew. The application of the right quantity of required fertilizer at the right time is vital for the judicious management of resources and for achieving the maximum benefit and income. Due to the wide variability in field conditions, and availability and choice of fertilisers, the farmers cannot correctly determine the right quantity of fertilizer to be applied and they may have to depend on scientists and extension personnel to get information on the correct doses. For empowering the farmers to take informed decision by themselves, software for nutrient management in cashew was developed under the project funded by RKVY-RAFTAAR at ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur.

Software on Nutrient Management in Cashew

This software is available in both English and Kannada. It is available on the ICAR-DCR website for calculating fertilizer requirement, lime requirement, foliar application of major and micronutrients. The deficiency symptoms of major and micronutrients commonly observed in the field are also included in the software. The farmers can click on the images and understand the symptoms and find out the options to correct the deficiency. The software also lets the farmers download the soil health card issued by ICAR-DCR, Puttur. The link to the software is https://cashew.icar.gov.in/soil

The QR code for quick access to the software is given below.

The use of fertilizer calculator module

- The user needs to provide the no. of trees in the plantation. Or this will be automatically calculated if the user gives spacing followed in the plantation and total area.
- The full recommended dose is required from 5th year onwards under normal density planting and from 3rd year onwards under high-density planting. Columns are provided to enter this information in the software.
- There are options to calculate fertilizer if the user follows the high-density planting either with general fertilizer recommendation or special recommendation of fertilizer.
- If soil test reports are available, this information can be added. Based on soil nutrient status, the fertilizer rate will be adjusted automatically.
- The user can choose the rate of fertilizer recommended for his/her state from the drop down menu.
- The type of fertilizer can be selected as per farmers’ choice, or even a new fertilizer can be used in the calculation, providing the percentage content of nutrients, which will be available on the fertilizer bag.
- The user can generate the report with information on fertilizer rate per tree basis and also the quantity required for the plantation.