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National Agricultural Research Institute

Recommended Cassava Varieties for Lowlands



**NARI TOKTOK
LAL006**

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Introduction:

Cassava is a drought tolerant root crop, which can survive extended periods of low rainfall. In the lowlands it takes 8 – 10 months from planting to harvest. Harvesting can be delayed for some weeks after maturity, but if left too long roots become fibrous and unpalatable. Cassava roots contain cyanogenic glucosides; however the varieties we have selected are low in cyanide and can be safely consumed after boiling.

Varieties

The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) at Laloki Dry Lowlands Programme has selected 4 Cassava varieties, which have shown promising yields, with low cyanide content for the lowland conditions of PNG. Varieties that performed very well in previous Laloki trials are as follows; Low in protein, low in cyanide, very good tuber shape and size, yellow flesh with good eating taste.

1. Variety: LALMe 51

Origin: Central Province

flesh with good eating quality

Duration: 6 - 9 months.

Farmers are encouraged to plant these recommended cassava varieties before drought to provide food during the famine period. Cassava can also survive a prolonged dry spell of 2 to 3 month and recover to produce edible roots after the drought.

Planting Materials

Foundation plant materials can be obtained from NARI Laloki.

This Toktok was written by Paul Osilis under the Drought Response Project in December 2002.

good tuber shape and size, yellow flesh with good eating taste

Duration: 6 - 9 months.

4 Variety: LALMe 86

Origin: Kerevat, East New Britain Province

Yield/ha: 20.1

Quality: Low in protein, low in cyanide, Very good tuber shape and size, white



LALMe86 Plant

Yield/ha: 29.2 tonnes

Quality: Low in protein, low in cyanide, good tuber size and shape yellow flesh and very good taste..

Duration: 6 - 9 months



LALMe 51 Plant



LALMe 51 Tuber

2. Variety: LALMe 6

Origin: Central Province

Yield/ha: 28.7

Quality: Low in protein, low in cyanide, very good tuber shape and size, yellow flesh and very good taste.



LALMe6 Plant



LALMe6 Tuber

3

Duration: 6 - 9 months

3 Variety: LALMe 92

Origin: Kerevat, East New Britain Province

Yield/ha: 28.6 tonnes

Quality: Low in protein, low in cyanide, Very



LALMe92 Plant



LALMe92 Tuber

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