

Native Fruit Species of Economical Potential from the Brazilian Amazônia

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Though many native amazonian fruit species have been described as having potential for cultivation, due to constraints as low yield, difficulty of cultivation, and, more frequently, taste peculiarities, most of them remain with only relative local importance. Some species not presenting these constraints are being progressively more widely cultivated and more consumed in the amazon region and southern Brazilian states and may perhaps have acceptance in foreign countries.

These are:

- 1) Cupuaçu (*Theobroma grandiflorum*)
- 2) Araçá-boi (*Eugenia stiptata*)
- 3) Bacuri (*Platonia insignis*)
- 4) Muruci (*Byrsonima sericea*)

Only *Theobroma grandiflorum* is object of research at EMBRAPA. Other species such as the *Rubiaceae* Purui (*Allibertia sorbilis*, *Thielodora verticilata*, *Luroya macrophylla*) and Genipapo (*Genipa americana*) also deserve attention. A summary of botany, geographic distribution, cultivation technique, agronomical and economical problems is presented for each species.