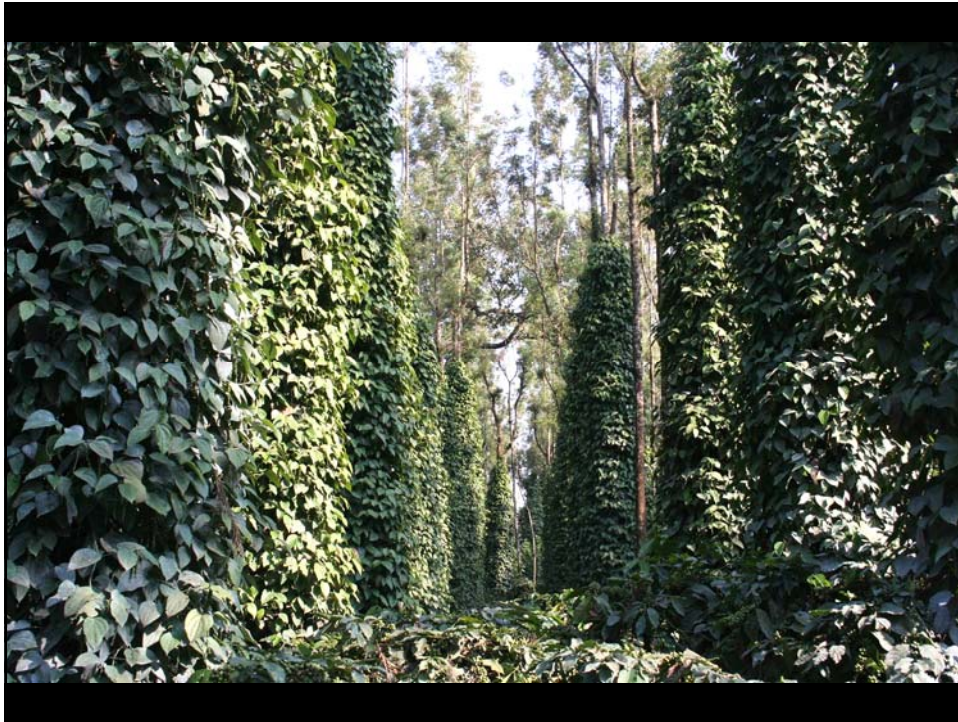


- ✓ Pepper is an endemic vine and can be located throughout the country, especially in the southern parts of India.
- ✓ Traditionally these vines are very sturdy and bear fruits depending on the climatic conditions. The Western Ghats being home to a majority of such vines.
- ✓ Coffee in India is necessarily grown under shade. Pepper is grown as an inter-crop between coffee on the standards provided by the shade trees.

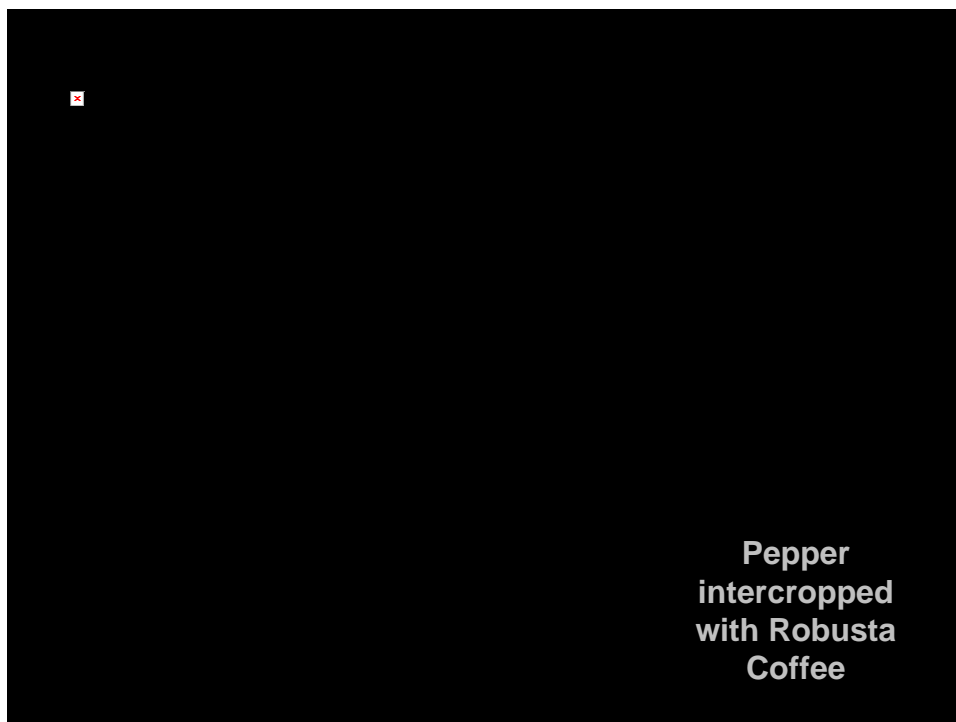


- ❖ Spices research in India by Indian Institute of Spices Research under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, State Agricultural Universities and the Spices Board are constantly working to develop area specific strains and technologies for the growers requirement.
- ❖ Endemic species of shade trees together with some exotic varieties are grown in the coffee areas, this besides providing standards for pepper also augments the resources of the growers.
- ❖ The primary or the first tier of shade is generally maintained at 40 feet and above, while the secondary shade is maintained between 15 and 20 feet and are usually fast growing varieties like *Erythrina lithosperma* (Daddup) and *Glyricidia*.

Pepper is grown on both the primary as well as on the secondary standards in Coffee. In coastal regions of India, pepper is cultivated on standards of Arecanut and Coconut based cropping systems



Interaction between the grower and the institutions



- ✓ Pepper became an important crop to the growers when coffee nose dived a few years ago and recorded a 36 years low in prices.
- ✓ This difficult situation encouraged growers to plant vines - on all the standards available in the coffee estates. Unfortunately this high density of vines lead to the outbreak of many fungal diseases which caught the growers totally unaware.

- ✓ The interaction between the growers and the scientists of the IISR helped the growers to address the situation.
- ✓ The growers adopted the different cultural practices provided by the research institute and this helped to step up the production of pepper as well as protect the pepper vines.
- ✓ Providing basin irrigation during March to the commencement of South West monsoon, proper shade regulation along with adoption of recommended package of practices helped in the early setting of berries, imparted resistance to anthracnose disease and ultimately lead to good yields.



Lab to Land, Trials demonstrated to growers



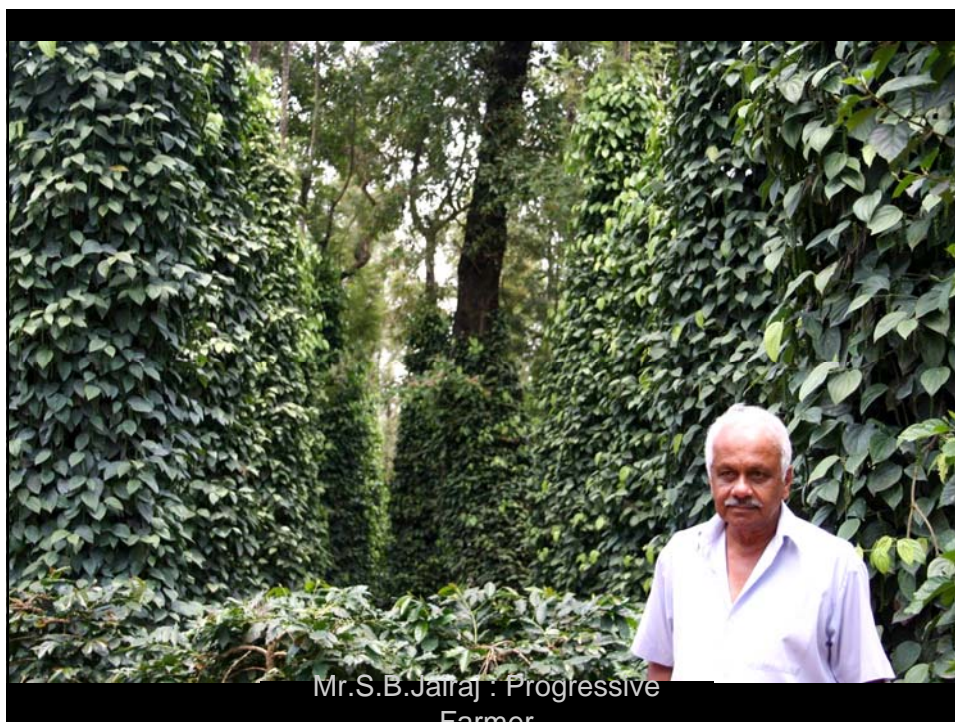
- The advent of the certification of the estates, together with a natural desire to **conserve the environment** only added to the enthusiasm of the growers, the price of organically grown pepper was in demand and the growers benefited by the higher prices.

By the use of **organics** and the compatible cultural practices, the production of pepper which had reduced, has revived to gain lost ground. Creating an environment for the quality and production of our commodities without the adverse effects on human life.



The
original
Dr.
Pepper!

Cultivating pepper as a mono-crop, *on stone or other artificial standards* did not find acceptance with our growers for reasons of conservation and better soil management.



Mr.S.B.Jaiaraj : Progressive
Farmer

The quality of pepper grown in the country is of a high standard and we are informed that the oleo-resins extracted from pepper grown in India is preferred for its economical viabilities

Value addition in pepper was proposed by these institutions and the growers adopted them for the production of white pepper and other value added products for both the local as well as the export markets.



Pepper De-
corning :
Mechanical



Barbecue
brick-layed
drying yard



Pepper
Onl