

GUIDELINES OF QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE PLANTING OF A NEW STONE FRUIT VARIETY IN YOUR AREA.

- ❖ Can a specific variety be planted legally?
- ❖ Is there Cold storage results available for a number of years and where and by whom it was done?
- ❖ Is there a market and where is the market for this specific fruit?
- ❖ Are the fruit characteristics like colour, aroma, flavour, and taste as well as storage capability better than an existing variety in the same harvesting timeslot?
- ❖ Does a similar existing variety with cheaper planting material achieve similar results?
- ❖ What are the horticultural characteristics and desired requirements like, chilling units, fruit size, production, cross pollination, susceptibility to disease etc. of the new variety
- ❖ Are the producer's farm conditions ideal for the variety?
- ❖ Has the prescribed rootstock been tested in different conditions like soil types and area?
- ❖ Does it ripen in the peaks of the production period and does it have niche value even if it ripens during peak periods?
- ❖ Are there any restrictions on planting or sales volume of the variety?
- ❖ Are there any restrictions regarding the sales channels that can be used as well as the markets that can be targeted with the variety.

Remember: An informed producer is well positioned to make good long term decisions.