



# Production Technology of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Vegetable Crops

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## Advances in Production Technology of Ivy Gourd

Mohd Wamiq<sup>1</sup>, Manish Kumar<sup>1</sup>, Suraj Luthra<sup>2</sup>, Khursheed Alam<sup>1</sup> and Muzeev Ahmad<sup>3</sup>

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### Introduction

India has overtaken China as the second-largest vegetable producer in the world with an annual growth rate of 2.6% and a total production of 84 million tonnes from 6.2 million hectares since independence. However, the number of vegetables available per person is significantly less than the 285 g per person per day suggested for a healthy diet. The ivy gourd, also known as *Coccinia grandis*, is a tropical perennial plant with the chromosome number ( $2n=2x=24$ ) and belongs to the same family as pumpkins, the Cucurbitaceae (Singh and Kalloo 2000). The ivy gourd actually came from India. It also goes by the titles “baby watermelon,” “small gourd,” and “gentlemen’s toes.” This vine climbs aggressively and spreads swiftly over fences, shrubs, trees, and other supports. The vegetables that are produced by this plant, which is an outdoor plant, are used in both ayurvedic treatments and Indian cuisine. Tindoras with stripes and those without stripes can be distinguished from one other by their outward appearance.



Fig. 1.1 : Ivy gourd

### Origin and distribution

The ivy gourd is mostly cultivated in other countries, including China, Malaysia, tropical Africa, and other southeast Asian countries. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh’s eastern and western areas cultivate varieties with long, dark-green fruits that have a few scattered, longitudinal white stripes and a spherical end. Bihar is home to a large, brash native variety that has green fruits.

### Local names of ivy gourd in India

Ivy Gourd/*Coccinia grandis* (English), Tondekai (Kannada), Tindora/Tondli (Hindi), Dondakaya (Telugu), Telakucha (Bengali), Kovaikkai (Tamil), Tendli (Marathi), Tendle (Konkani), Kundru (Oriya) and Kovaykka (Malayalam).