MINOR EDIBLE FRUITS OF BANGLADESH
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Abstract
Minor edible fruits are the genetic resource of a country, playing a vital role as food, nutrition and medicine. Bangladesh having both tropical and sub-tropical climatic condition possesses a large number of species that produce minor edible fruits. The present study represents 255 species of minor edible fruit yielding plants of Bangladesh. Of them, 242 species belong to 58 families of Magnoliopsida and 13 species to three families of Liliopsida. The large minor fruit yielding families are Euphorbiaceae (20 spp.), Myrtaceae (18 spp.), Moraceae (15 spp.), Arecaceae (11 spp.), Sapindaceae (11 spp.), Anacardiaceae (10 spp.), Annonaceae (10 spp.), Rutaceae (8 spp.), Verbenaceae (8 spp.) and Vitaceae (8 spp.). Three species are aquatic in nature and about 50 species are herbs, including 31 species of climbers or lianas, and 49 are shrubs and the remaining 156 species are trees. About 48 species are cultivated for fruits and the 35 species are both cultivated and wild. The remaining species are exclusively wild. A total of 53 exotic species are included in the cultivation. In most of the species, pericarp with mesocarp or the whole part of fruit is edible. In few cases either seed or kernel is edible, or in others the non-carpel part of flower. Summer is found as the most and winter as the least suitable fruit yielding seasons in a year.

Introduction
Fruits are eaten raw and their nutritive value lies in the presence of good amount of organic acids, carotenoids, vitamins and minerals. Fruits are an integral part of food needed to meet the mineral requirements of human body and to strengthen body defense mechanisms against various biotic and abiotic stresses and for proper health per capita requirement of fruits is 115 g. On an average, fruits have been contributing to about 4% to human nutrition (APCAEM, 2007). Utmost rural houses possess a home garden with fruit and timber plants that act as a source of income for many families and became the safety net during hardship and natural disaster. The planting intensity has increased at least four folds in 65% of households during the last few years (Rahman and Rahman, 2014). Botanically fruit is the matured or ripe ovary. Sometimes thalamus, calyx and epicalyx, inflorescence or seeds are also developed as the major part of a fruit. Out of about 2,50,000 species in Magnoliophyta, about 30,000 species have been identified as edible fruit yielding, of which about 7,000 species have found cultivated in the World (Wilson, 1992). Minor fruits are those that are consumable to the human beings but are relatively less palatable than other mainstream fruits, which have lesser demand in the market and are grown to a limited extent only (Srivastava et al., 2017). Many of the minor or under-utilized fruits are important in social, economic, biodiversity and conservation aspects on a regional and local basis. They also provide the source of nutrition of wild animals and birds.

Many floristic works in this region mentioned about the edible fruits of Bangladesh (Humphrey et al., 1921; Heinig, 1925; Siddiqui et al., 2007 and Ahmed et al., 2008-2009) and its surrounding areas (Grierson and Long, 1983-1991; Guha-Bakshi, 1984; Naskar, 1993, and Noltie, 1994).

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The first comprehensive record about the edible fruits of Bangladesh was published by Khan (1974), who reported 43 species of fruits that are cultivated. Das (1982) recorded 60 species of fruits which are growing only in wild state. Later on, Rashid et al. (1987) recorded 40 cultivated fruits of Bangladesh. Subsequently Begum (2004) reported 55 species, which are only in cultivation. Finally, Roy (2007) made an extensive record of fruits, which are both cultivated and wild, numbering a total of 120 species. Rahim et al. (2011) reported 67 minor fruit yielding plants of Bangladesh that are growing in the Germplasm Centre at Bangladesh Agriculture University. The minor fruits contributed about 8.38% production of the total fruit yield of Bangladesh (BBS, 2011).

There are 250 edible fruits in the Philippines (Hill, 1951). In Malaysia, there are about 500 species of fruit plants of which 100 species are cultivated (Zakri and Mohammad, 1997). On the other hand, Joshi (1998) reported 162 species and Suresh et al. (2014) reported only 21 species of minor fruit yielding plants from India.

New scope and possibility about utilization of wild fruits is increasing. At least 30 species are already known in Bangladesh for their therapeutic values apart from their nutrition values (Rahman and Rahman, 2014). Some are antidiabetic and antioxidant. Quite a few of these have excellent flavors and attractive colour. Many natural food colours, mostly anthocyanins, are now demanding. Furthermore, many minor fruits may be valuable for food processing like jam, jelly, sauce, pickles, juice and food additives.

A preliminary botanical survey has been done by us and the study indicated that many more species are yet to be recorded or compiled for full listing of the minor fruit yielding plant resource of Bangladesh. Therefore, this study aims at providing and updating available taxonomic information of the minor edible fruit yielding plants of Bangladesh.

Materials and Methods

An extensive field survey has been conducted in different localities of 14 districts of Bangladesh namely, Chittagong, Rangamati, Bandarban, Khagrachari, Kumilla, Brahmanbaria, Mymensingh, Khulna, Jeshore, Satkhira, Sylhet, Moulavibazar, Rajshahi and Bogura districts (Fig. 1) from 2006 to 2018 following group discussion, household survey and market survey techniques. In addition, primary information on minor and wild fruit was collected from different secondary resources (scientific papers, books, internet etc.). The collected samples were identified by consulting the available relevant literatures. Furthermore, the specimens located at the herbaria CUH, BFRIH and DACB were also studied. In order to accommodate vast array of information, a small representative list of wild and minor fruits has been prepared with their up-to-date nomenclature (Pasha and Uddin 2013 and www.theplantlist.org). Information on the availability, habit condition and status of the plants was also collected.

Results and Discussion

A total of 255 minor edible fruit yielding species belonging to 149 genera under 61 families have been presented alphabetically (Table 1). 15 of these species under three families belong to the Liliopsida and the remaining species under 58 families belong to Magnoliopsida. The Euphorbiaceae is recorded as the largest minor fruit yielding family (20 spp.), which is followed by Myrtaceae (18 spp.), Moraceae (15 spp.), Arecaceae (11 spp.), Sapindaceae (11 spp.), Anacardiaceae (11 spp.), Annonaceae (10 spp.), Rutaceae (8 spp.), Verbenaceae (8 spp.) and Vitaceae (8 spp.) families. These ten large families constitute about 47% of the total species found as minor fruit yielding (Fig. 2).
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Fig. 1. Map of Bangladesh showing the study areas (Source: www.mapsofworld.com).

![Map of Bangladesh showing the study areas]

Fig. 2. The ten large minor fruit yielding families of Bangladesh.

| Name of Family |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Vitaceae       |        |
| Verbenaceae    |        |
| Sapindaceae    |        |
| Rutaceae       |        |
| Myrtaceae      |        |
| Moraceae       |        |
| Euphorbiaceae  |        |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                          | Family name | Local Names | Habit  | Cultivated (C)/Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/Exotic (Ex) |
|--------|----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.     | Acronychia pedunculata (L.) Miq.       | Rutaceae    | Bon jamir   | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 2.     | Aglaia perversis Hiern                 | Meliaceae   | Sabuj amoor | Medium tree | W                        | In                           |
| 3.     | Alangium salvifolium (L.f.) Wangerin   | Alangiaceae | Ankora, Akarkanta | Medium tree | W                        | In                           |
| 4.     | Aleurites moluccanus (L.) Wild.        | Euphorbiaceae | Akhrot      | Medium tree | W                        | Ex                           |
| 5.     | Allophylus coriaceus (L.) Prain        | Sapindaceae | Chita, Rakhal chita, Aita chita | Shrub or small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 6.     | Alphonsea lutea (Roxb.) Hook.f. & Thomson | Annonaceae | Fonseti      | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 7.     | A. ventricosa (Roxb.) Hook.f. & Thomson | Annonaceae | Fonsetricosa | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 8.     | Ampelocissus barbata (Wall.) Planch.   | Vitaceae    | Jarila lahari | Herbaceous climber | W                        | In                           |
| 9.     | A. latifolia (Roxb.) Planch.           | Vitaceae    | Gowalia lata, Govila, Peribel | Herbaceous climber | W                        | In                           |
| 10.    | Ampelocissus chinense (L.) Lindley     | Polygonaceae | Mohicharan sak, Kaker bantabhat | Herbaceous climber | W                        | In                           |
| 11.    | Anacardium occidentale L.              | Anacardiaceae | Kaju badam | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 12.    | Annona maritica L.                    | Annonaceae  | Muri at      | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 13.    | A. reticulata L.                      | Annonaceae  | Nona ata     | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 14.    | A. squamosa L.                        | Annonaceae  | Sharifa      | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 15.    | Anthocephales cadamba Miq              | Rubiaceae   | Kadam        | Large tree | C & W                    | In                           |
| 16.    | Antidesma acidum Retz.                | Euphorbiaceae | Amrul, Chutki | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 17.    | A. acuminatum Wall.                   | Euphorbiaceae | Shial buka | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 18.    | A. banius (L.) Spreng.                | Euphorbiaceae | Banshial buka | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 19.    | A. khasianum Hook.f.                  | Euphorbiaceae | Khasia jam | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 20.    | A. montanum Blume var. montanum       | Euphorbiaceae | Shial buka | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 21.    | Aporosa octandra (Buch.-Ham ex D.Don) Vickery | Euphorbiaceae | Pat kharolla | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 22.    | A. aurea Hook.f.                      | Euphorbiaceae | Kechuan     | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 23.    | Artocarpus chama Buch.-Ham ex Wall.    | Moraceae    | Chaplash, Chambal | Large tree | W                        | In                           |
| 24.    | A. lacucha Buch.-Ham.                  | Moraceae    | Deophal      | Large tree | W & C                    | In                           |
| 25.    | Averrhoa bilimbi L.                   | Oxalidaceae | Bilimbi      | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 26.    | A. carambola L.                       | Oxalidaceae | Kamranga     | Small tree | C                        | Ex                           |
| 27.    | Avicennia alba Blume                   | Verbenaceae | Sada baen, Maricha baen | Large tree | W                        | In                           |
| 28.    | Baccaurea ramiflora Lour.              | Euphorbiaceae | Latkan, Bhubi | Medium tree | W & C                    | In                           |
| 29.    | Bauhinia vahlii Wight & Arn.Caesalpiniaeflora Meissner | Euphorbiaceae | Lata-kanchan | Climbing shrub | W & C                    | In                           |
| 30.    | Bonea oppositifolia (Roxb.) Meissner   | Anacardiaceae | Bhillam, Uriaam | Medium tree | W                        | In                           |
| 31.    | Bridelia retusa (L.) A.Juss.           | Euphorbiaceae | Kata kushai, Akdana | Small tree | W                        | In                           |
| 32.    | B. stipularis (L.) Blume               | Euphorbiaceae | Pat khowi, Harinshara | Climbing shrub | W                        | In                           |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name          | Family name          | Local Names                  | Habit            | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|--------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 33.    | *Buchanania lancifolia* Roxb. | Anacardiaceae        | Cheerojee oil plant          | Small tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 34.    | *B. lanzan* Spreng.     | Anacardiaceae        | Piyal                        | Small tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 35.    | *Caesalpinia digyna* Rottler | Caesalpinaceae      | Kochoi, Teri pods            | Shrubby climber  | W                        | In                        |
| 36.    | *Calamus latifolius* Roxb. | Arecaceae            | Kerak bet, Badum bet         | Extensive climber| W                         | C                        |
| 37.    | *C. longisetus* Griff.   | Arecaceae            | Uddum bet                    | Robust shrub     | W & C                     | In                        |
| 38.    | *C. tenuis* Roxb.       | Arecaceae            | Jali bet, Sanchi bet         | Climbing shrub   | W & C                     | In                        |
| 39.    | *C. viminalis* Willd.   | Arecaceae            | Bara bet, Khor khoija bet     | Climbing shrub   | W & C                     | In                        |
| 40.    | *Callicarpa arborea* Roxb. | Verbenaceae        | Bormala, Khoja, Makanchi     | Small tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 41.    | *Calophyllum polyanthum* Wall.Clusiaceae ex Choisy | Burseraceae        | Dhu na rata                  | Buttressed tree  | W                        | In                        |
| 42.    | *Canarium bengalense* Roxb. | Capparaceae        | Dhu na rata, Shil batna, Khiri badam | Medium tree     | W                        | In                        |
| 43.    | *Capparis zeiyanica* L. | Capparaceae          | Kalookra                      | Large shrub      | W                        | In                        |
| 44.    | *Carallia brachiata* Roxb. | Rhizophoraceae      | Roska, Lotka, Matan          | Small tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 45.    | *Careya arborea* Roxb.  | Lecythidaceae        | Kumba bidipata, Karamcha    | Medium tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 46.    | *Carissa carandas* L.   | Apocynaceae          | Karamcha                      | Bushy shrub or small tree | C                     | Ex                        |
| 47.    | *C. spinarum* L.        | Apocynaceae          | Misti karamcha               | Shrub            | W                        | In                        |
| 48.    | *Cassysyta filiformis* L. | Lauraceae            | Akasbel                       | Annual herb      | W                        | In                        |
| 49.    | *Castanopsis indica* (Roxb. ex Lindl.) A.DC. | Fagaceae            | Batna, Shil batna, Khiri badam | Medium tree     | W                        | In                        |
| 50.    | *C. purpurella* (Miq.) N.P. Balakr. | Fagaceae           | Kata shingu, Batna          | Medium tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 51.    | *C. tribuloides* (Sm.) A.DC. | Fagaceae            | Sili batna, Bara hinguri    | Medium tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 52.    | *Chrysophyllum cainito* L. | Sapotaceae          | Taroka phol                   | Medium tree       | C                        | Ex                        |
| 53.    | *Chilocalyx perfoliatius* (L.) Hassk. ex Miq. | Polygonaceae       | Kanta tokpata                | Annual herb      | C& W                     | In                        |
| 54.    | *Citrus assamensis* S.Datta &S.C.Bhattacharya | Rutaceae          | Ada jamir                     | Large shrub      | C                        | In                        |
| 55.    | *C. aurantium* L.       | Rutaceae             | Satkora, Kaiffl lime         | Medium tree       | C                        | In                        |
| 56.    | *Cordia dicotoma* G.Forst. | Boraginaceae        | Bohal, Kalahuza               | Medium Tree      | W                        | In                        |
| 57.    | *Dauomonrops jenkinsiana* (Griff.) Mart. | Arecaceae          | Golla bet, Maj jenkins       | Climbing shrub   | W & C                     | In                        |
| 58.    | *Dillenia indica* L.    | Dilleniaceae         | Chalta                        | Medium tree       | W                        | C & W                     | In                        |
| 59.    | *D. pentagyna* Roxb.    | Dilleniaceae         | Banchalta                     | Medium tree       | W                        | In.                       |
| 60.    | *Dimocarpus longan* Lour. | Sapindaceae        | Ashphal, Kathilucu,          | Medium tree       | C & W                     | In                        |
| 61.    | *Diospyros blancoi* A.DC. | Ebenaceae          | Beelai gab                    | Medium tree       | C                        | Ex                        |
| 62.    | *D. malabarica* (Desr.) Kostel. | Ebenaceae        | Deshi gab                     | Medium tree       | W & C                     | In                        |
| 63.    | *D. melanoxylon* Roxb.  | Ebenaceae            | Bidipata, Tendupata           | Medium tree       | W                        | In                        |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                  | Family name | Local Names          | Habit       | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|--------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 64.    | *D. toposia* Buch.-Ham.         | Ebenaceae   | Katgula, Toposi, Gab gulal | Medium tree | W                         | In                          |
| 65.    | *Dodonaea viscosa* (L.) Jacq.  | Sapindaceae | Paniaphul            | Small tree  | C                        | Ex                          |
| 66.    | *Drypetes assamica* (Hook.f.)  | Euphorbiaceae | Ban bokul           | Medium tree | W                         | In                          |
| 67.    | *D. subsessilis* (Kurz) Pax & K. Hoffm. | Euphorbiaceae | Chato drypet | Small tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 68.    | *Duchesnea indica* Andt.        | Rosaceae    | Jongli strawberry    | Perennial   herb | W                      | In                          |
| 69.    | *Ehretia serrata* Roxb.         | Boraginaceae | Kala huja           | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 70.    | *Elaeagnus latifolia* L.        | Euphorbiaceae | Bonjara            | Scandent shrub | W                      | In                          |
| 71.    | *Elaeocarpus angustifolius* Blume | Euphorbiaceae | Rudraksha         | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 72.    | *E. tectorius* (Lour.) Poir.    | Elaeocarpaceae | Tekopai olive | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 73.    | *Embella ribes* Burm.f.         | Myrsinaceae | Biranga             | Scandent shrub | W                      | In                          |
| 74.    | *Eriglossum rubiginosum* Blume  | Sapindaceae | Baraharina, Pitha, Riha | Medium tree | W                         | In                          |
| 75.    | *Eriobotrya japonica* (Thunb.) Lindl. | Rosaceae | Loquat           | Small tree  | C                        | Ex                          |
| 76.    | *Eugenia roxburghii* DC.        | Myrtaceae   | Hijli jam, Menadi   | Small tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 77.    | *Euryale ferox* Salisb.         | Nymphaeaceae | Makhna, Makana, Floating herb | Medium tree | W                         | In                          |
| 78.    | *Ficus auriculata* Lour.        | Moraceae    | Baradumur           | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 79.    | *F. benjamina* L.              | Moraceae    | Pakur               | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 80.    | *F. hispida* L.                | Moraceae    | Dumur, Khoksa       | Small tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 81.    | *F. lanceolata* Buch.-Ham.      | Moraceae    | Buti dumur, Erigachi | Medium tree | W                         | In                          |
| 82.    | *F. oligodon* Miq.             | Moraceae    | Oligo dumur        | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 83.    | *F. pumila* L.                 | Moraceae    | Lata dumur         | A climbing   Shrub | W                      | In                          |
| 84.    | *F. racemosa* L.               | Moraceae    | Jagya dumur        | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 85.    | *F. rumphi* Blume               | Moraceae    | Gai aswathwa       | Medium sized tree | W                        | In                          |
| 86.    | *Firmiana colorata* (Roxb.) R.Br. | Sterculiaceae | Ujal              | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 87.    | *F. obovata* Wall.              | Sterculiaceae | Dima huri         | Medium tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 88.    | *Flacourtia indica* (Burm.f.) Merr. | Flacourtiaeae | Boicifol, Paniala | Large shrub | W                         | In                          |
| 89.    | *F. inermis* Roxb.               | Flacourtiaeae | Loai              | Small tree  | W                         | In                          |
| 90.    | *F. jongomens* (Lour.) Raeusch. | Flacourtiaeae | Painna gola, Paniala | Small tree  | C & W                      | In                          |
| 91.    | *Fragaria vesca* L.             | Rosaceae    | Strawberry         | Annual herb  | C                        | Ex                          |
| 92.    | *F. indica* Andr.               | Rosaceae    | Indian strawberry  | Annual herb  | W                         | In                          |
| 93.    | *Garcinia cowa* Roxb. ex DC.    | Clusiaceae  | Kau, Kao-gola      | Medium tree  | W & C                      | In                          |
| 94.    | *G. lanceaefolia* Roxb.         | Clusiaceae  | Thisuru            | Large Shrub  | W                         | In                          |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                  | Family name       | Local Names            | Habit      | Cultivated (C)/Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/Exotic (E) |
|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 95.     | G. pedunculata Roxb. ex. Buch.-Ham. | Clusiaceae        | Tikul, Tikur, Bor thekera | Medium tree | W                       | In                        |
| 96.     | G. xanthochymus Hook. f. ex T.Anderson | Clusiaceae        | Tamal, Dem-gola        | Medium tree | W                       | In                        |
| 97.     | Garuga floribunda Decne. var. Burseraceae gambi (King ex W.W.Sm.) Kilkman | Clusiaceae        | Jongli jiga, Garuga    | Medium tree | W                       | In                        |
| 98.     | Glochidion khassicum (Muell.Arg.) Hook.f. | Euphorbiaceae | Khasia kachua         | Small tree  | W                       | In                        |
| 99.     | G. zeylanicum (Gaertn.) A.Juss. | Euphorbiaceae     | Siloni kachua          | Shrub or small tree | W | In |
| 100.    | Glycosmis pentaphylla (Retz.) A.DC. | Rutaceae          | Ashsheora, Datmajani   | Bushy shrub | W | In |
| 101.    | Gmelina arborea Roxb. | Verbenaceae       | Gamar                  | Medium tree | W & C                  | In                        |
| 102.    | G. asiatica L. | Verbenaceae       | Bhadbra                | Medium tree | C | In |
| 103.    | Grewia abutilifolia Vent. | Tiliaceae         | Kowri, Notk           | Small tree  | W | In |
| 104.    | G. asiatica L. | Tiliaceae         | Phalsa, Sakri, Pisa, Phalsa | Small tree  | C | In |
| 105.    | G. hirsuta Vahl | Tiliaceae         | Kukurbicha             | Large shrub | W | In |
| 106.    | G. sapida Roxb. ex DC. | Tiliaceae         | Chuhura                | Herb       | W | In |
| 107.    | G. sclerophylla Roxb. ex G.Don | Tiliaceae         | Phalsa                | Large Shrub | W | In |
| 108.    | G. tiliifolia Vahl | Tiliaceae         | Dhomoni, Phalsa       | Small tree  | W | In |
| 109.    | Haematocarpus thomsonii Miers | Menispermacae | Agniphol              | Woody climber | W | In |
| 110.    | H. validus (Miers) Bakh.f. ex Forman | Menispermacae | Agni foli             | Woody climber | W | In. |
| 111.    | Helicia erratica Hook.f. | Proteaceae        | Kharo pakam           | Small tree  | W | In |
| 112.    | Hibiscus sabdariffa L. | Malvaceae         | Lai mesta              | Large herb  | C & W Ex               |
| 113.    | Hovenia dulcis Thumb. | Rhamnaceae       | Raisil gaas           | Medium tree | W | In |
| 114.    | Hylocereus undatus (Howorth) Cactaceae Britton & Rose | Cactaceae | Dragon fruit           | Spiny shrub | C | Ex |
| 115.    | Isora pavetta Andr. | Rubiaceae         | Sweet rangan, Gandha irangan | Bushy shrub | W | In |
| 116.    | Lantana trifolia L. | Verbenaceae       | Tinpata Lantana       | Perennia herb | W | In |
| 117.    | Leea crispa L. | Leeaceae          | Kukura                | Large shrub | W | In |
| 118.    | L. indica Merr. | Leeaceae          | Kukur gibba           | Large shrub | W | In |
| 119.    | L. macrophylla Roxb. Ex Hornem. | Leeaceae         | Hostikorno            | Large shrub | W | In |
| 120.    | Lepisanthes rubiginosa (Roxb.) Leenh. | Sapindaceae | Rubiharina            | Small tree  | W | In |
| 121.    | L. senegalensis (Poir.) Leenh. | Sapindaceae | Gotaharina, Anjam     | Small tree  | W | In |
| 122.    | Limonia acidissima L. | Rutaceae         | Koethibel             | Medium tree | C | In |
| 123.    | Litsea cubeba (Lour.) Pers. | Lauraceae         | Kubahoria             | Large shrub | W | In |
| 124.    | L. glutinosa (Lour.) L.B. Rob. | Lauraceae         | Kukur chita, Menda    | Medium tree | W | In |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                   | Family name   | Local Names                  | Habit         | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|--------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 125    | *Maclura cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Corner | Moraceae      | China maclur                | Large shrub   | W                        | In                          |
| 126    | *Madhuca longifolia* (J. Koenig ex L.) J.F.Machr. | Sapotaceae    | Mohua, Mohwa maul           | Medium tree   | W & C                    | In                          |
| 127    | *Maesa chisia* Bucch.-Ham. ex D.Don | Myrsinaceae   | Bilouni, Gangu loda         | Large shrub   | W                        | In                          |
| 128    | *M. ramentacea* (Roxb.)A.DC.     | Myrsinaceae   | Moricha, Noa moricha        | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 129    | *Malpighia coccigera* L.         | Malpighiaceae | Kanta malpighia             | Dwarf shrub   | C                        | Ex                          |
| 130    | *M. glabra* L.                   | Malpighiaceae | -                            | Bushy shrub   | C                        | Ex                          |
| 131    | *Mangifera sylvatica* Roxb.      | Anacardiaceae | Uriaam, Jangli              | Large tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 132    | *Manilkara hexandra* (Roxb.) Dubard | Sapotaceae  | Khirni, Khir khejur, Khilani | Large tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 133    | *M. zapota* (L.) P.Royen        | Sapotaceae    | Sofeda, Sapodilla           | Small tree    | C                        | Ex                          |
| 134    | *Melastoma malabathricum* L.     | Melastomataceae | Ban-tejpata, Datranga       | Large shrub   | W                        | Ex                          |
| 135    | *Meliosma pinnata* (Roxb.) Walp. | Sabiaceae     | Bativa, Adalia              | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 136    | *Meyna spinosa* Roxb. ex Link    | Rubiaceae     | Maina, Mainakata            | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 137    | *Microcos paniculata* L.         | Tiliaceae     | Asar, Tarah, Pesondi, Pichunti | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 138    | *Miliusa tomentosa* (Roxb.) J.Sinclair | Annonaceae | Lom tasbi                      | Erect shrub  | W                        | In                          |
| 139    | *M. velutina* (Dunal) Hook.f. & Thomson | Annonaceae | Gandhi gajari, Bul gajari | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 140    | *Mimusops elengi* L.             | Sapotaceae    | Bokul, Elengi               | Medium tree   | C                        | In                          |
| 141    | *Mischocarpus pentapetalous* (Roxb.) Radlk. | Sapindaceae | Miskaphal                      | Medium tree  | W                        | In                          |
| 142    | *Monstera delicosa* Liebm.       | Araceae       | Makha                        | Epiphytic climber | W                      | In                          |
| 143    | *Morinda citrifilia* L.          | Rubiaceae     | Naniophal                    | Large shrub   | C & W                    | In                          |
| 144    | *Morus alba* L.                  | Moraceae      | Tunt, Tuti                   | Small tree    | C                        | Ex                          |
| 145    | *M. indica* L.                   | Moraceae      | Deshi tut                    | Large shrub   | C                        | Ex                          |
| 146    | *M. macroura* Miq.               | Moraceae      | Himalyan tut                 | Large shrub   | C                        | Ex                          |
| 147    | *M. nigra* L.                    | Moraceae      | Kalo tut                     | Large shrub   | C                        | Ex                          |
| 148    | *Muntingia calabara* L.          | Tiliaceae     | Suji phal                    | Small tree    | C                        | In                          |
| 149    | *Murraya koenigii* (L.) Spreng.  | Rutaceae      | Kari pata                    | Bushy shrub   | W & C                    | In                          |
| 150    | *M. paniculata* (L.) Jack        | Rutaceae      | Kamini, Tall shrub           | C             | In                        | In                          |
| 151    | *Myrcaria cauliflora* (DC.) Berg | Myrtaceae     | Jaboticaba                   | Small tree    | C                        | Ex                          |
| 152    | *Myrica nagi* Thumb.             | Myricaceae    | Kayphol                      | Small tree    | W                        | In                          |
| 153    | *Nauclea orientalis* (L.) L.      | Rubiaceae     | Nukli                        | Erect shrub   | W                        | In                          |
| 154    | *Nelumbo nucifera* Gaertn.       | Nelumbonaceae | Padma, Lotus                | Perennial aquatic herb | W & C | In                          |
| 155    | *Nephelium rambutan-ake* (Labill.) Leenh. | Sapindaceae | Rambutan                      | Medium tree   | C                        | Ex                          |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name | Family Name | Local Names | Habit          | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|--------|----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 156.   | *Nypa fruticans* Wurmb. | Arecaaceae | Golpata, Gulga, Gabna | Erect shrub | W | In |
| 157.   | *Nyssa javanica* (Blume) Wangerin | Nyssaceae | Malatlata | Tree | W | In |
| 158.   | *Olax scandens* Roxb. | Oleaceae | Koko aru | Climbing shrub | W | In |
| 159.   | *Opuntia dellenii* Haw. | Cactaceae | Phanimanasa | Under shrub | C & W | Ex |
| 160.   | *Ottelia alismoides* (L.) Pers. | Hydrocharitaceae | Panicola | Perennial aquatic herb | W | In |
| 161.   | *Oxystelma secamone* H. Karst. | Asclepiadaceae | Dudhia lata, Dudhi lata | Woody climber | W | In |
| 162.   | *Parkia roxburghii* G.Don. | Mimosaceae | Koko aru | Climbing shrub | W | In |
| 163.   | *Passiflora edulis* Sims. | Hydrocharitaceae | Panicola | Perennial aquatic herb | W | In |
| 164.   | *P. foetida* L. | Passifloraceae | Jhumka lata | Climbing herb | W | Ex |
| 165.   | *P. quadrangularis* L. | Passifloraceae | Misriphal | Large climber | C | Ex |
| 166.   | *Persea americana* P. Mill. | Lauraceae | Avocado | Medium tree | C | Ex |
| 167.   | *Phoebe attenuata* (Nees) Nees | Lauraceae | Bonsum | Large tree | C | Ex |
| 168.   | *Phoenix acaulis* Roxb. | Arecaaceae | Khudi khejur | Erect shrub | W | In |
| 169.   | *P. dactylifera* L. | Arecaaceae | Arabi khejur | Thorny tree | C | Ex |
| 170.   | *P. paludosa* Roxb. | Arecaaceae | Halal, Hintal | Erect shrub | W | In |
| 171.   | *P. rapicola* T.Anderson | Arecaaceae | Kola khejur | Small tree | C | Ex |
| 172.   | *P. sylvestris* (L.) Roxb. | Arecaaceae | Deshi khejur | Small tree | C & W | In |
| 173.   | *Photinia arguta* Wall.ex.Lindl. | Rosaceae | Fotini | Small tree | W | In |
| 174.   | *Phyllanthus acidus* (L.) Skeels | Euphorbiaceae | Amla, Orbori | Small tree | C. | Ex |
| 175.   | *P. emblica* L. | Euphorbiaceae | Amloki | Small tree | W & C | In |
| 176.   | *P. urinaria* L. | Euphorbiaceae | Hazarmani | Annual herb | W | In |
| 177.   | *Physalis minima* L. | Solanaceae | Fotka | Annual herb | W | In |
| 178.   | *P. peruviana* L. | Solanaceae | Tepari | Annual herb | C | Ex |
| 179.   | *Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.) Benth. | Mimosaceae | Khai labla, Jilapi phul | Medium tree | W & C | Ex |
| 180.   | *Polyalthia cerasoides* (Roxb.) Benth. & Hook.f. ex Bedd. | Annonaceae | Marmi | Small tree | W | In |
| 181.   | *Polyalthia suberosa* (Roxb.)Thwaites | Annonaceae | Murmuri, Kukuriam | Small tree | W | Ex |
| 182.   | *Pouteria campechiana* (Kunth) Baehni | Sapotaceae | Jaman phol | Small tree | C | Ex |
| 183.   | *Prenna bengalensis* C.B.Clarke | Verbenaceae | Banglalatana, Koya jarul | Large shrub | W | In |
| 184.   | *P. herbacea* Roxb. | Verbenaceae | Bluujam, Matijam | Undershrub | W | In |
| 185.   | *Prostia serratum* (Wall. ex Coelbr.) Engl. | Burseraceae | Chitrlica, Gutgutya, Hajna | Medium tree | W | In |
| 186.   | *Psidium araca* Raddi | Myrtaceae | Tock piyara | Large shrub | W | Ex / In |
| 187.   | *P. chinense* Lodd. ex Loud. | Myrtaceae | Chinese piyara | Large shrub | C | Ex |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                          | Family name | Local Names | Habit               | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|--------|----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 188.   | *Pterygota alata* (Roxb.) R.Br.        | Sterculiaceae| Buddha narical | Large tree           | W & C                    | In                          |
| 189.   | *Punica granatum* L.                   | Punicaceae  | Dalim, Bedana, Belong, Moncata, Piralo | Large shrub Tree or large shrub | C                        | Ex                          |
| 190.   | *Randia angustissima* Wall.            | Rubiaceae   | Moncata, Mainphal | Small tree           | W                        | In                          |
| 191.   | *R. dumatorium* (Retz.) Lam.          | Araceae     | Tusafido     | Epiphytic climber   | W                        | In                          |
| 192.   | *Rhizophora mucronata* Lam.           | Rhizophoraceae| Khamo       | Small tree           | W                        | In                          |
| 193.   | *Salacia chinensis* L.                 | Hippocraticae| Madhu phal, Chota boroi | Woody climber       | W                        | In                          |
| 194.   | *S. salacioides* (Roxb.) Rolla Rao & Hemadri | Hippocraticae| Sala madhu phal | Woody climber       | W                        | In                          |
| 195.   | *Sambucus canadensis* L.               | Caprifoliaceae| American elder | Erect shrub         | W                        | Ex                          |
| 196.   | *S. javanica* Reinw. ex Blume         | Caprifoliaceae| Hoklati     | Small tree           | W                        | Ex                          |
| 197.   | *S. nigra* L.                         | Caprifoliaceae| Sambucas   | Small tree           | C                        | Ex                          |
| 198.   | *S. ovalifolia* indigum Cav.           | Melliaceae  | Santol       | Medium tree          | C                        | Ex                          |
| 200.   | *Sarcolobus globosus* Wall.            | Asclepiadaceae| Baoli-lata, Baoli-phal | Large shrub         | W                        | In                          |
| 201.   | *Saurauia roxburghii* Wall.            | Theaceae    | Dalup        | Large shrub         | W                        | In                          |
| 202.   | *Saururus androgynus* (L.) Merr.       | Euphorbiaceae| Mithapotro | Large shrub         | W                        | In                          |
| 203.   | *Schleichera oleosa* (Lour.) Merr.     | Sapindaceae | Kusum, Joyna | Medium tree          | C                        | In                          |
| 204.   | *Semecarpus anacardium* L.f.           | Anacardiaceae| Bhela, Beda | Medium tree          | W                        | In                          |
| 205.   | *S. nigroviroida* Thwaites             | Anacardiaceae| Kattula     | Medium tree          | E                        | In                          |
| 206.   | *Shorea robusta* Gaertn.f.             | Dipterocarpaceae| Shal, Gazari | Medium tree          | W & C                    | In                          |
| 207.   | *Solanum americanum* Mill.             | Solanaceae  | Tit begun   | Annual herb          | W                        | In                          |
| 208.   | *S. lasiocarpum* Dunal                  | Solanaceae  | Kantha sola  | Herb or Undershrub  | W                        | In                          |
| 209.   | *S. trilobatum* L.                     | Solanaceae  | Trikun pata  | Herb or Undershrub  | W                        | In                          |
| 210.   | *Solena amplexicaulis* (Lam.) Merr.    | Cucurbitaceae| Kundri, Rakh gota | Climbing herb       | W                        | In                          |
| 211.   | *Sonneratia caseolaris* (L.) Engl.     | Sonneratiaceae| Ora, Orali, Orcha, Sholai | Large tree         | W                        | In                          |
| 212.   | *Spodius dulcis* Parkinson             | Anacardiaceae| Bilati amra | Small tree          | C                        | Ex                          |
| 213.   | *S. purpurea* L.                      | Anacardiaceae| Beelati amra | Medium tree         | C                        | Ex                          |
| 214.   | *Sterculia foetida* L.                 | Sterculiaceae| Jangli-the  | Medium tree         | W                        | In                          |
| 215.   | *Stixis suaveolens* (Roxb.) Pierre     | Capparaceae | Madhumalati | Woody climber       | W                        | In                          |
| 216.   | *Suregada multiflora* (A. Juss.) Baill | Euphorbiaceae| Ban naranga | Medium tree         | W                        | In                          |
| 217.   | *Syzygium aqueum* (Burm.f.) Alston     | Myrtaceae   | Jamboo, Pani jam | Medium tree         | W                        | In                          |
| 218.   | *S. balseum*um* (Wight) Wall. ex Walp. | Myrtaceae   | Buti jam     | Large Shrub         | W                        | In                          |
| Sl. No. | Botanical Name | Family name | Local Names | Habit     | Cultivated (C) | Indigenous (In) | Exotic (E) |
|--------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|------------|
| 219.   | *S. claviflorum* (Roxb.) Wall. ex A.M. Cowan & Cowan | Myrtaceae   | Lamba nali jam, Khudi jam, Khurijam | Small tree | W              | In             |            |
| 220.   | *S. cymosum* (Lam.) DC. | Myrtaceae   | Khudi jam, Khurijam | Small tree | W              | In             |            |
| 221.   | *S. formosum* (Wall.) Masam. | Myrtaceae   | Paniya jam, Phuljam, Natla | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 222.   | *S. fruticosum* (Roxb.) DC. | Myrtaceae | Ban jam, Kak jam, Puti jam | Small tree | W              | In             |            |
| 223.   | *S. jambos* (L.) Alston | Myrtaceae | Gulap jam | Small tree | C              | Ex             |            |
| 224.   | *S. macrocarpa* Roxb. | Myrtaceae | Chalita jam, Bon jam | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 225.   | *S. malaccense* (L.) Merr. & Perry. | Myrtaceae | Jamrul | Medium tree | Ex             | In             |            |
| 226.   | *S. nervosum* (DC.) A. Cunnex DC. | Myrtaceae | Janrul | Medium tree | C              | Ex             |            |
| 227.   | *S. oblum* (Roxb.) A.M. Cowan & Cowan | Myrtaceae | Boti jam, Dapha jam, Goda jam | Small tree | W & C           | In             |            |
| 228.   | *S. praecox* (Roxb.) Rathakr & N.C. Nair | Myrtaceae | Poora jam | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 229.   | *S. samarangense* (Blume) Merr. & L.M. Perry | Myrtaceae | -- | Medium tree | C              | Ex             |            |
| 230.   | *S. tetragonum* (Wight) Wall. ex. Kurz | Myrtaceae | Gonojam, Charjam | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 231.   | *Tamarindus indica* L. | Caesalpiniaceae | Tentul, Tentuli Lomam | Large tree | C & W           | Ex             | In         |
| 232.   | *Tapiria hirsuta* Hook.f | Anacardiaceae | Bohera, Boyra | Scandent shrub | W              | In             |            |
| 233.   | *Termilania bellirica* (Gaertn.) Roxb. | Combretaceae | -- | Medium tree | W & C           | In             |            |
| 234.   | *T. catappa* L. | Combretaceae | Kathbadam | Small tree | C & W           | Ex             | In         |
| 235.   | *T. chebula* (Gaertn.) Retz. | Combretaceae | Haritoki | Medium tree | W & C           | In             |            |
| 236.   | *T. citrina* (Gaertn.) Roxb. ex Fleming | Combretaceae | Hatiyal, Haritaki, Harra | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 237.   | *Tetrastigma angustifolium* (Roxb.) Planch. | Vitaceae | Nekung riubi, Sarapatilata | Herbaceous climber | W              | In             |            |
| 238.   | *T. bracteolatum* (Wall.) Planch. | Vitaceae | Golgoli lata | Herbaceous climber | W              | In             |            |
| 239.   | *T. dubium* (Lawson) Planch. | Vitaceae | Kuannia, Riam lata | Climbing herb | W              | In             |            |
| 240.   | *T. leucostaphyllum* (Den.) Alston | Vitaceae | Horina lata | Climbing herb | W              | In             |            |
| 241.   | *T. serrulatum* (Roxb.) Planch. | Vitaceae | Koratilata | Climbing shrub | W              | In             |            |
| 242.   | *Trapa bispinosa* Roxb. | Trapaceae | Paniphal | Floating aquatic herb | W & C | In            |            |
| 243.   | *T. maximoviczii* Korshinsky | Trapaceae | Paniphal, Kata singhara | Floating aquatic herb | W & C | In            |            |
| 244.   | *Triphasia trifolia* (Burm.f.) P. Wilson | Rutaceae | Cheeninarangi | Small tree | W              | In             |            |
| 245.   | *Uvaria ferruginea* Buch.-Ham. Annonaceae | Annonaceae | Bon khajur | Large shrub | W              | In             |            |
| 246.   | *Vitex glabrata* R.Br. | Verbenaceae | Ashal | Medium tree | W              | In             |            |
| 247.   | *Vitis lanata* Roxb. | Vitaceae | Sonalata, Rangobhuttu | Climbing shrub | W              | In             |            |
### Table 1 Contd.

| Sl. No. | Botanical Name                      | Family name | Local Names       | Habit            | Cultivated (C)/ Wild (W) | Indigenous (In)/ Exotic (E) |
|---------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 248.    | Willoughbeia edulis Roxb.           | Apocynaceae | Lata aam, Lati aam| Climbing shrub   | W                        | In                        |
| 249.    | Xerospermum laevigatum Radlk.       | Sapindaceae | Bonlichu          | Small tree       | W                        | In                        |
| 250.    | X. noronhianum (Blume)              | Sapindaceae | Bonlichu, Noronlichu | Medium tree    | W                        | In                        |
| 251.    | Ziziphus jujubaefolia Buch.-Ham. ex Wall. | Rhamnaceae | Bon-boguri        | Large shrub      | W                        | In                        |
| 252.    | Z. galabrata Heyne ex Roth          | Rhamnaceae  | Rata boroi, Jangli kul | Small tree | W                        | In                        |
| 253.    | Z. oenoplia (L.) Mill.              | Rhamnaceae  | Sial kul, Jangal kul, Bon bori | Straggling shrub | W                        | In                        |
| 254.    | Z. rugosa Lam.                      | Rhamnaceae  | Jangli boroi, Rug boroi | Straggling shrub or small tree | W                        | In                        |
| 255.    | Z. xylopyrus (Retz.) Willd.         | Rhamnaceae  | Jhangli boroi     | Large shrub      | W                        | In                        |

### Table 2. Some promising wild minor fruit yielding plant species of Bangladesh.

| Name of the species | Edible part | Name of the species | Edible part |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1                   | Alangium savifolium | Pulp   | 23 | Hovenia dulcis | Pulp  |
| 2                   | Antidesma acidum | Fruit  | 24 | Morinda citrifolia | Thalamus  |
| 3                   | A. ghaesembilla | Pulp  | 25 | Morus macroura | Ripe fruit  |
| 4                   | Arocarpus chama | Pulp  | 26 | Murrya koenigii | Pulp  |
| 5                   | Bauea barmanka | Pulp  | 27 | Paramigyna citrifolia | Pulp  |
| 6                   | Bauhinia vahlii | Immature seed | 28 | Parkia roxburghii | Pulp  |
| 7                   | Buchanania lanzan | Fruit & Nut | 29 | Passiflora foetida | Ripe fruit  |
| 8                   | Caesalpinia digyna | Immature seed | 30 | Phyoe attenuta | Pulp  |
| 9                   | Carissa spinarum | Pulp  | 31 | Photina argata | Ripe fruit  |
| 10                  | Castanopsis indica | Matured seed | 32 | Physalis minima | Ripe fruit  |
| 11                  | C. purpurella | Matured seed | 33 | Randia dumetorium | Matured fruit  |
| 12                  | Cirus assamensis | Juice  | 34 | R. spinosa | Matured fruit  |
| 13                  | Cleistocalyx operculata | Seed kernel | 35 | R. uliginosa | Matured fruit  |
| 14                  | Cordia dichotoma | Pulp  | 36 | Salacia salacioides | Matured fruit  |
| 15                  | Diospyros peregrina | Pulp  | 37 | Sambucus canadensis | Matured fruit  |
| 16                  | Duchesnia indica | Matured thalamus | 38 | S. javanica | Matured fruit  |
| 17                  | Erioglossum rubrimum | Pulp  | 39 | S. nigra | Matured fruit  |
| 18                  | Eryobotrya javanica | Pulp  | 40 | Schleicheria oleosa | Arillous pulp  |
| 19                  | Euryale ferox | Immature seed | 41 | Sterculia foetida | Kernel  |
| 20                  | Firmiana colorata | Matured seed | 42 | Syzygium formosum | Pulp  |
| 21                  | Garcinia xanthochymus | Pulp  | 43 | S. aqueum | Pulp  |
| 22                  | Haematocarpus validus | Pulp  | 44 | Willoubeia edulis | Pulp  |
Among the species recorded, a total of 50 species are herbs, including 31 species of climbers or lianas, and 49 species are shrubby in nature. The remaining 156 species are trees. About 48 species are cultivated for fruits and the 35 species are both cultivated and wild. The remaining species are exclusively wild. A total of 53 exotic species are included in the cultivation state. Only 3 species are found growing in aquatic condition.

Almost all the species produce true fruits and only five species produce false fruits. Few species are considered as nut or kernel producing tree. Only 15 species produce fruits that are completely edible and 13 species produce such fruits only the kernel or nut of which are edible. In other cases, all the structural portions except the seed(s) are edible.

Almost all the exotic species are cultivated and considered as promising fruit yielding plants. Some native wild and minor cultivated plants are also found promising fruit yielding in their taste and colour also. In this study, 44 species have been recognized as promising minor fruit yielding species because they are comparatively widely used and popular in consumption (Table 2).

The flowering and fruiting time of the edible fruit yielding plant species was found as remarkably variable (Table 1). The fruits were more or less available throughout the year (Fig. 3). The majority of minor fruit yielding plants were found with fruiting in the months between March and September. The richest fruit yielding month was June (11.51%) and the poorest was January (5.50%).

The edible fruits occur in a vast number of families in the World. Hill (1951) recognized the families Anacardiaceae, Annonaceae, Myrtaceae, Rutaceae, Sapotaceae and Sapindaceae as particularly important in yielding the fruits. This study has also found some similar important families.

In few reports some minor fruits are evaluated as promising in many aspects (Bose, 1985; Rahim et al., 2011; Francsca et al., 2012). Many of the minor edible fruits are with little pulp and larger seed size with less palatable. However, the edibility and nutritional value and economic value of different minor edible fruits can be improved. On the other hand, most of the major fruits are available in the month of May to July, but minor fruits are available throughout the year. The minor fruits can play a great role in improving the social and economic status of the local people. They also can significantly contribute in the conservation of biodiversity. Minor fruit production
may support the livelihood of the producers and side by side can increase the demand of the consumers. Many edible minor fruits can contribute as the remarkably promising fruit recourses in multifarious way if proper research is conducted for their exploration, selection, improvement and large-scale cultivation.

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