

INTRODUCTION

This research station is located at Khergam Village of Gandevi Taluka in Navsari District under South Gujarat region. It was established in 1935 by Gaikwad state with a view to develop horticultural activities in this region. Geographically, it is situated at 20.807545° N 73.022260° E and 7.6 meter height from sea level. It is 4 km away from Gandevi town. The total area of the farm is 12.23 ha out of which 10.17 ha is under cultivation. The soil of the farm is clayey with moderate drainage.

The Vengania river is passing near by the farm. The river water is lifted for irrigation and it is available throughout the year. Annual average rainfall of this area is about 1500 to 1800 mm. The mean maximum temperature varies from 26° to 38° C in summer and the minimum temperature ranges from 26° to 10° C in winter.

Gandevi belongs to agro-climate zone-I and Heavy rainfall area. The climate of the zone is characterized by fairly hot summer, moderately cool winter and warm monsoon. Since, December, 1987 the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Banana and Sapota was started and functioning at this centre. From the year 2010, Papaya crop is included in the project.

The activities of the research station are going on under the following projects.

1. AICRP on Fruit (Banana, Papaya and Sapota) (B. H. 2014-5)
2. Research on Fruit Crops (B. H. 5014)
3. Revolving Fund (B. H. 9510-N-12)
4. Tribal Sub-plan (B. H. 2075)
5. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture – MIDH (B. H. 18930-7)
6. Banana Biofortification project (B. H. 18225)
