



'KARY', AN IMPROVED CARAMBOLA FOR COMMERCIAL PLANTING

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Fig. 1 'Kary' tree.

'Kary' is the first carambola, or star fruit (*Averrhoa carambola* L.), cultivar developed by the Department of Horticulture, University of Hawaii. It is a sweet, firm-fleshed carambola with good shelf life.

Origin

'Kary' was selected from a population of open-pollinated seedlings of 'Sri Kembangan' grown at Poamoho experimental farm. It was selected in 1980 and originally designated DR11T1 for testing. It has been distributed for propagation and testing at various locations throughout the state.

Description

Trees of 'Kary' are vigorous and productive.



Fig. 2. 'Kary' fruit.

They have a rounded, compact canopy, and mature trees benefit from pruning (Fig. 1). 'Kary' produces fruit in clusters that require thinning to produce larger marketable fruit.

'Kary' fruits mature about 60 days after flowering (Fig. 2). They are elliptical with five distinct wings. Fruit length ranges from 4 to 5 in (10 to 15 cm) and about 2.8 to 3.2 in (7 to 8 cm) in cross section. Fruits have deep yellow skin and bright orange-yellow flesh when fully ripe. The flesh is firm and sweet, with total soluble solids averaging about 17 percent. The flavor is much superior to that of ordinary seedling carambolas found in Hawaii. 'Kary' fruits keep better than ordinary seedling star fruits.

Availability

Budwood and scionwood are available in limited quantities from the Beaumont Research Center, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, Hilo, HI 96720.