

**FLOWERING AND FRUIT DEVELOPMENT
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ‘WHITE’ STAR APPLE FRUIT
(*Chrysophyllum cainito*) CULTIVAR GROWN IN AN GIANG
PROVINCE**

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Summary

This study was aimed to determine the characteristics relating to the process of flowering and fruit development of the ‘White’ star apple cultivar grown in Thoai Son and Tri Ton district, An Giang province. Experiments, from august 2017 to april 2018, were implemented on 10 trees at the age from 20 to 50-year-old, grown from seed. The observed parameters included: flowering and harvesting time, fruit set, young fruit abscission, and fruit development. Moreover, yield and fruit quality were also determined. The results showed that ‘White’ star apple started to flower from the commence of the rainy season (june as in lunar calendar). The period from flower bud emergence to blooming prolonged within 48.8 ± 3.1 days. The duration from fruit setting to harvesting was 126.3 ± 1.7 days. Fruit size increased rapidly in the first 8 weeks of the fruit development process. In the last 4 weeks prior to harvesting, fruit size and weight remained unchanged. The average growth rate of fruit weight per week was 2.7 g. The average weight of fruit at harvesting time is 213.4 ± 7.2 g, with an average yield of 168.9 ± 17.9 kg/tree. Vitamin C content in fruit was 16.0 ± 0.89 mg per 100 g of fruit flesh. The dry matter of fruit was $15.8\% \pm 0.45$ of fruit weight. The average °Brix of fruit flesh was 13.5%.

Keyword: *Star apple, Chrysophyllum cainito, flowering, fruit development.*