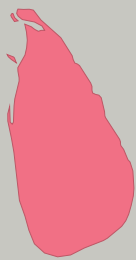


# Sri Lanka



<b>Region</b>	South and Southeast Asia
<b>UPOV membership status</b>	No
<b>Participation in OECD Seed Schemes</b>	No
<b>ISTA accredited member laboratories</b>	No
<b>GM crop approval for cultivation</b>	None
<b>Law on Plant Variety Protection</b>	No

## Seed sector in Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, a biodiversity hotspot, seed production activities are dominated by the public sector, notably the Department of Agriculture's Seed and Planting Material Development Centre.

The country has opted for a sui generis system for the protection of plant varieties. However, no progress has been made in passing suitable legislation for plant variety protection after a draft bill on Plant Variety Protection (Breeder's Rights) was passed in 2001.

Most of the quality seed in the country is imported and distributed to farmers by the private sector. Important vegetable seed distributors include Troseed and Best Seeds, while maize seed and paddy seed are distributed by companies such as CIC Agri Businesses and Hayleys Agriculture.

As Sri Lanka is dependent to a large extent on imported seed, in 2017 the Department of Agriculture and Lal Teer Seed of Bangladesh implemented a project to increase vegetable seed production in the country. The project is planned to be implemented on the premises of Field Crops Research and Development Institute, Mahailluppallama.

There is an increasing need to introduce suitable legislation protecting plant breeders' rights, which would encourage greater involvement by private sector companies.

## Observations

Nineteen index companies report having a presence in Sri Lanka, with eight companies having testing locations.

Advanta is the only company producing seed, and 95% of the seed is produced by smallholder farmers.

Only Advanta and Known-You Seed report providing extension services.

## Company activities identified in Sri Lanka

Company	Crops in portfolio		Company activities in country					
	Field crops	Vegetables	Breeding location	Testing location	Seed production	Processing location	Sales	Extension services
Acsen HyVeg		●		●			●	
Advanta	●	●		●	●*		●	●
Bayer		●					●	
Bejo		●					●	
Charoen Pokphand	●	●					●	
Corteva Agriscience	●			●			●	
East-West Seed		●					●	
Enza Zaden		●					●	
Kalash Seeds		●		●			●	
Known-You Seed		●		●			●	●
Lal Teer Seed		●					●	
Limagrain		●					●	
Monsanto							●	
Nongwoo Bio		●		●			●	
Nuziveedu Seeds		●		●			●	
Rijk Zwaan		●					●	
Syngenta							●	

Other index companies are also active in the country. However, country-specific information for these companies is not available or was provided under non-disclosure.

\* Company involves smallholder farmers in seed production activities

## Other companies identified in the regional landscaping study and their activities

Company	Crops in portfolio		Company activities in country		
	Field crops	Vegetables	Breeding location	Seed production	Sales
Best Seeds		●			●
CIC Agri Business	●			●	●
Hayleys Agriculture	●	●			●
Lankem Ceylon Plc - Agro	●	●		●	●
Troseeds	●	●		●	●

