



PROJECT SUMMARY

Ref No.: MRIC-SCA-P08	Title: Value added products from <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> seeds
Local Company: University of Mauritius	
Collaborating Institution: Nonico Co Ltd	
Project Leader	
Associate Professor Vidushi Neergheen	University of Mauritius
Research Collaborators	
Name	Organization
Dr Deena Ramful Baboolall	University of Mauritius
Mr Rajeev Rummun	University of Mauritius
Mr Bharat Ramruttun	Nonico Co Ltd
TECHNICAL ABSTRACT	
<p><i>Morinda citrifolia</i> L., commonly known as noni, has emerged as a commercially successful bioactive ingredient used in pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and cosmetic products owing to the diverse therapeutic properties of its metabolites (Abou Assi et al., 2017). Noni parts including fruits, seeds, barks, leaves, and flowers are used in ethnomedicine and in various commercial products including powders, beverages, infusions, and seed oil (Almeida et al., 2019).</p> <p>Nonico Co. Ltd is a Mauritian company producing noni juice for the local and the international markets. The company is highly motivated to diversify its product range. Importantly, seeds constitute 2.5% of the whole noni fruit and are regarded as a major waste of the company (Pazos et al., 2011). On the other hand, noni seed oil is a highly coveted product due to its safety profile, anti-inflammatory properties, and potential commercial applications (Palu et al., 2012).</p> <p>Therefore, the aim of this project is to primarily add value to the seeds of noni via extraction of its oil and the development of a topical cream using the oil, hence encouraging new product range for the company to market locally as the company is facing some challenges with export due to the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>	
Key Words: Smart Agriculture, <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> , seed oil, topical cream, anti-inflammatory	