

**Name** Pala Balik Pulau  
(Balik Pulau Nutmeg)

**Country** Malaysia

**Date of registration:**  
06/05/2015



Source: MyIPO

#### Main characteristics/features

Nutmeg is an evergreen plant of the genus *Myristica*. Nutmeg grows best in hot climates with an annual rainfall exceeding 2500 per year. Nutmeg trees in Balik Pulau produce round- and pear-shaped fruit. Round-shaped nutmeg fruit measure 5–6 cm in diameter with an average weight of 80–90 grams.

#### Geographical area

Balik Pulau is located in the southwest part of Penang. Much of this area remains green and is ideal for agricultural activities. The focus in this area is more on the cultivation of nutmeg in addition to other fruit trees. There are also a number of private orchards. The area is also exposed to winds from the Indian Ocean due to its location on the 'other side of the island'.

#### Production/processing

The nutmeg is planted in integration or in combination with other fruit trees. The nutmeg produces year-round fruit but the highest yields are usually between July and December. With proper care, the nutmeg usually begins to bear fruit in the fifth or sixth year. Using the MyGAP cultivation system, there are 16 elements or processes that must be followed during the cultivation process. The key elements are site management, planting material, irrigation and fertigation, protection and fertilisation, harvesting and post-harvesting, crop analysis, and waste management.

#### Link between product and territory

The history of nutmeg cultivation in Penang began around the 1800s by the East India Company in 1786. The location being hilly and close to the sea gives it a uniqueness to the nutmeg cultivation process in the area. Planted on the hillslopes, the trees are thus exposed to the ever changing sea wind. The continued support of the Penang Department of Agriculture and the introduction of the MyGAP system have contributed toward consistent high yields and quality.

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**Competent authority** Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)

**GI rights holder/GI association** Penang State Department of Agriculture

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**Type of product** Fruit

**Control body** MYGAP Ministry of Agriculture

**File number** GI2015-00016

**Websites**