**Main characteristics/features**

Bà Đen custard apple (or annona squamosa) is a tropical fruit of great value as it contains a considerable amount of microelements such as potassium, phosphorus and zinc.

**Geographical area**

The Bà Đen custard apple production areas are located in the Thanh Tan, Tan Binh, Ninh Son, Ninh Thạnh communes of Tay Ninh town; Tan Hung commune of Tan Chau district; Suoi Da, Phan and Bau Nang commune of Duong Minh Chau district, in the province of Tay Ninh.

**Production/processing**

The land is structured, fertilised, and planting holes are dug. Custard apple trees can be planted throughout the year but the best time is before the rainy season in late May or early June. The authorised variety is annona squamosa. Plant propagation is achieved by planting seeds or vegetative propagation. Each apple tree can produce between 50 and 70 fruits during the rainy season and about 50 fruits during the dry season. The trees are constantly pruned.

Fruit is harvested the whole year and picked early morning or late afternoon.

To preserve the fruit, special packaging material such as foam containers and paper are used.

**Link between product and territory**

Bà Đen is the highest mountain in this south eastern part of the country, a symbol representing the land and people of the Tay Ninh province. Custard apples have been cultivated here for many generations using traditional farming techniques. Nowadays, Bà Đen custard apple trees are well-known, not only in Vietnam, but also around the world and are exported to countries such as Australia, China, the USA, and many European countries. This is a volcanic mountain made up of granite and acid magma rock, with a high concentration of potassium and minerals such as manganese, zinc and magnesium. These create a rich, moist and fertile soil. The tropical climate enables custard apple trees to produce fruit all year round.