

# CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

Chili pepper (*Capsicum* sp) is the species of the genus *Capsicum*, *Solanaceae* family. There are two popular groups, namely spicy pepper (*Capsicum frutescens* L.) and sweet pepper (*Capsicum annuum* L.). Nowadays chili pepper is grown widely around the world, especially in the America and some Asian countries such as China, India, Thailand, Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia (Vegetable Research Institute, 2014).

Chili pepper is a spice plant having large consumption. Chili pepper has an economic value in food industry, medicines and cosmetics. Cultivated areas have been increased in many countries but the yield and the quality remain unchanged. Productivity decreases due to erratic environmental changes, variety degeneration, sensitive to pests, and many other factors (Vegetable Research Institute, 2014).

There are about fifty different chili pepper varieties named differently depended on shape or feature (Bosland and Votava, 2003). Ingredients in chili pepper have important nutrition value, used for spices, aroma and color. Chili pepper helps to reduce cholesterol. It is rich in vitamin A, C, E, potassium, and folic acid. Chili pepper is easy to grow, suitable for many ecological zones. Chili pepper has high potential development in Vietnam. Unlike other vegetables, chili pepper can be harvested several times, semi-processed or simple processing (drying, powder). These methods will help to reduce market risks, keep prices being stable, and ensure the benefits brought to growers.

Chili pepper plays an important role in daily consumption. The demand increases rapidly. However, Chili pepper varieties are very various. Chili pepper varieties mostly are not label, low yield and unstable quality. The needs are that more intensive researches on the peppers species to find ways to overcome the shortcomings that undermine the productivity. The study "Introduction of several varieties of chili pepper from Vietnam to Padang, Indonesia" is conducted to choose the suitable chili pepper varieties which can be grown in Indonesia in the future.

## 1.2 Study objectives

To identify the period of growth and pre-production stages of each chili pepper varieties

To evaluate the growth ability of each chili pepper varieties

To identify the yield and quality of each chili pepper varieties.

