A STUDY OF POSTHARVEST CHANGES IN THREE MANGO CULTIVARS

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A study was conducted to examine postharvest changes in three mango (Mangifera indice L.) cultivars: Karthakolomban, Ambalavi and Polamba.

Well matured fruits, two days after plucking, were selected and stored, under open ambient conditions and under dark conditions in wooden boxes. During storage, weight loss (due to dehydration and due to diseases), ethylene production and pulp sugar content were determined at regular intervals for ten days.

Ambalavi fruits had the highest weight loss due to dehydration (13.9%) followed by Polamba (10.6%) and Karthakolomban (6.3%) at the end of 10 days storage period. Light had similar effects on weight loss due to dehydration.

Significant differences were observed among cultivars in weight loss due to diseases. Ambalavi showed highest suceptibility to diseases followed by Karthakolomban and Polamba. Lost 28% and 10% of fruit weight at the end of the 10 day storage period whereas Karthakolomban and Polamba lost 28% and 10% of fruit weight respectively. Light and dark conditions had a similar effect on disease loss.

Ethylene production showed a rise and fall pattern for all cultivars reaching a peak on the 4th day. Ambalavi had highest peak ethylene production followed by Karthkolomban and Polamba. Similar trends were observed for both storage conditions with respect to ethylene production.

Pulp suger content increased to 17% in Kathakolomban, 14.4% in Polamba and 10% in Ambalavi after 10 days of storage.