

## Adoption of mango post harvest technology by farm women of Latur district of Maharashtra

V.D. JADHAV, B.M. THOMBRE AND J.V. MANDE

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

**J.V. MANDE**

Department of

Extension Education,

College of Agriculture,

LATUR (M.S.) INDIA

### ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in three talukas of Latur district, viz., Ahmedpur, Ausa and Renapur. Four villages from each taluka were selected having the maximum area under mango crop. The data were collected from 10 respondents from each of the twelve villages. The results revealed that majority of the respondents belonged to middle age group and educated up to secondary school level with medium income group. Majority of them (41.67 per cent) possessed semi-medium land holding and 67.5 per cent had medium social participation with medium sources of information. It was observed that majority (65.84 per cent) of the respondents had medium level of adoption of mango post harvest technology.

### INTRODUCTION

Post harvest technology refers to different operations carried out after the harvest of crop for the purpose of preservation and enhancement of quality. Post harvest technology as a multi-disciplinary applied science and engineering involved scientific conservation of agricultural produce by eliminating available losses and making more nutritive foods and high value products. Generally 90 per cent of farm women are involved in various post harvest activities. Post harvest technology is important in minimizing losses, spoilage and cost in transportation, earning more profit or benefit from processed products and to raise the economic status of grower.

Horticultural and agricultural crops play significant role in Indian economy. The overall contribution of farm women in Indian agriculture is roughly estimated to be 70-80 per cent. Majority of them are engaged in the post harvest operations like harvesting, grading, storing and preservation of farm produce. Once farm produce is brought to the house, further responsibility rests with women folk. As a part of eighth five year plan, the Government of Maharashtra has launched a Horticulture Development programme in the year 1990-91, which recently has been merged into National Horticultural Mission from the year 2005. Under this scheme fruit crops, viz., ber, mango, custard apple, sapota, pomogranate, orange, jamun are selected for

cultivation.

Mango (*Mangifera indica*) is one of the drought resistant horticultural fruit crops proved to be the best profitable crop under dry land conditions. The area under mango crop in Maharashtra state was about 81490 hectares. In Marathwada region, the area under mango fruit crop was about 34,529 ha and production was about 33,635 metric tonnes and productivity was 3.80 tonnes/ha during 2005. In Latur district the area under mango fruit crop was about 1134.45 ha. Mango is rich source of carbohydrates (16.6 mg /100 g), calcium (160 mg /100 g), protein (0.69 / 100 gm), sodium (26 mg / 100 g), thiamine (0.08 mg/ 100 g), niacin (0.9 mg / 100 g) and vitamin C (35 mg /100 g). Thus, the fruit is liked for its cool, refreshing juice and valued for its medicinal properties. No information appears to be generated in Maharashtra in respect to adoption of post harvest technology by farm women except some observation made by Thakur *et al.* (1991) on information sources and knowledge of mango growers.

Hence, it is necessary to know the adoption of different post harvest operations by farm womens. It is essential to find out the adoption of mango post harvest technology by rural women for developing new suitable strategy in adoption of post harvest technology. Therefore, the present investigation was undertaken with the following specific objectives : to study the personal and socio-

### Key words :

Adoption, Farm women, Post harvest technology, Mango

Accepted :  
April, 2009