

Title Assuring quality and safety of mango fruits in Taiwan
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Abstract

For assuring quality and safety of mango fruits in Taiwan, a working group was set up by Agriculture and Food Agency, Council of Agriculture to implement good agricultural practices, good postharvest practices and supply-chain management. Good agricultural and postharvest handling practices are based on HACCP principle, integrated crop management, integrated pest management, environmental protection, and worker welfare. Earlier fruit bagging are emphasized to reduce disease infection and pesticide use. Anthracnose incidence was detected before harvest by spraying ethephon to mature-green fruits. Fruits are also sampled before harvest for analyzing pesticide and fungicide residues. Farmers in the same region unite as production and marketing team have been asked to record their cultural practices including fertilizer and pesticide application. All the records are put on the Taiwan Agricultural Food Traceability Network for enhancing transparency. EAN-128 bar codes are introduced to individual farmer's products for enforcing traceability through the whole supply chain. Practices and facilities for postharvest handling are improved. Fruit exporters are encouraged to cooperate with fruit suppliers and to take the responsibility in auditing farmer's cultural practices. Some farmer groups are even practicing EUREPGAP and apply for the third-party certification. These practices would be beneficial for building consumer's confidence in fruit safety and exploring foreign markets.