Abstract

The study attempted to determine the effects of harvesting schedules on the qualities of sugar apple. One hundred fifty fruits were identified from the orchard that was selected during the budding stage. Each treatment had 50 replicates. Postharvest qualities of sugar apple were determined by 1) number of cracks; 2) weight of fruits, and 3) degree of sugar content. Parameters 2 and 3 are subjected to analysis of variance at 5% and 1% level of significance. Difference of treatment means was compared using Least Significance Difference. Two days before and after traditional harvesting schedule have significant effect on the weights of the fruits. Control yielded the sweetest among the sugar apples. Treatment 1 gave the highest number of fruits with cracks. Treatment 2 has the highest average weight followed by the control and treatment 1 has the least average weight. Treatment 2 shows that there is no significant difference at 1% level of significance on the weight of sugar apple. It significantly increased the weights of the fruits. Recommendations were: a) seasonal pests and diseases should be considered in conducting related studies for these may affect data on incidence of cracks and TSS; b) In future related studies, researchers must collect sugar apple samples in other municipalities of Batangas where atis is grown; and c) further study about postharvest qualities of sugar apple using other indicators (fruit length and width, percent edible portion and flesh thickness).