Integrated control of anthracnose (*Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*) of mango for export

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Abstract

Anthracnose, caused by *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*, is a major pathogen of mango. It causes significant losses after harvest and in the market. *C. gloeosporioides* infects the fruits starting in the field and causes latent infection, then symptoms show up at the fruit ripening stage. Control practices in Thailand start in the field to reduce inoculum arriving on the fruits from the other sources. Leaves are the main sources of inoculum, and immature leaves are susceptible to the disease whereas at the fully mature stage, leaves are resistant. At the development stage, fruits are usually protected by bagging 45-60 days after fruit set to improve the final fruit appearance and to reduce anthracnose incidence. Many types of bagging materials have been used and polyethylene bags can reduce disease incidence by 65%. At harvest, fruits are harvested with pedicels (2-10 cm) attached, and transported to packing areas. In the packinghouse, fruits are either dipped in hot water at 55°C for 5 min or in prochloraz at 250 ppm for 30 s. A reduction in disease incidence of 45% has been reported by hot water treatment. Fruits for export to Japan are treated with vapor heat at 48°C for 20 min. This holistic approach is presented and discussed.