

Title The current situation and development priorities for grain postharvest technology in China.
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Abstract

This paper describes the current status of China's grain postharvest technology, focusing on transport and storage. Problems encountered and the priorities in the industry are also discussed. After 20 years of reform and the opening-up policy, Chinese agriculture and the rural economy have made great achievements attracting worldwide attention. In 1999, Chinese grain production reached 508 million tonnes, accounting for almost a quarter of the world total and making China the world's leading grain-producing country. Agricultural production in China has gone from a history of long-term deficiency of the main agricultural commodities to a basic balance between supply and demand, with even some surplus in good years, and relative overproduction within certain periods, localities and seasons. In the past few years, the major concerns of the central authorities and all the governments at local level are to help farmers sell their grain and increase their incomes. At the same time as the increases in grain purchases, storage, transportation and processing ability, the provision of advanced equipment, the upgrading of the postharvest technology, as well as the training of postharvest managers and technical specialists, are also among the government's important commitments.