

Postharvest Handling of Jackfruit

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ABSTRACT

Researches on jackfruit postharvest handling are not widely conducted, but there are several studies on storage condition, postharvest handling and packaging based on consumer's preference particularly on seeded or non-seeded jackfruit forms. Due to the objectives and the utilization of jackfruit, the fruit can be harvested at 3–8 months after juvenile. The storage of fresh jackfruit at 12–16°C can extend self life up to 4–6 weeks than storage at room temperature (25–27°C) with 4–5 days storage life. Coating with commercial soybean protein isolates at non-seeded fruit obtains higher sensory acceptance value than that seeded fruit either in normal gas composition storage or with stretch film packaging at the end of storage. Pre modified atmosphere packaging treatments including dipping the fruits in CaCl₂, ascorbic acid, citric acid, and sodium benzoate can prevent chilling injury. Vacuum drying at 60°C and 75°C in three different stages of maturity showed no visual differences in color which close to fresh jackfruit.

Key words: Jackfruit, Postharvest, Fresh cut, Coating, Modified atmosphere packaging

1. INTRODUCTION

Harvested fruits are living entities since they still continue their performance of metabolic functions in the post harvest state. Quality deterioration of harvested fruits is the result of a combination of physiological, mechanical, microbiological and environmental factors and conditions (Palipane *et al.*, 2008). Improper packaging, rough handling and overloading of vehicles during transportation from production to consumption areas, account for approximately 20% of losses within the post-production chain (Palipane *et al.*, 2008). Postharvest handling researches of jackfruit are widely focusing on storage of fresh cut product with coating and Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) treatments.

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