



Enhancing Post-Harvest Handling Techniques to Minimise Fruit and Vegetable Losses in Côte d'Ivoire

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Abstract

The post-harvest handling of fruits and vegetables in Côte d'Ivoire remains inefficient, leading to significant losses. A mixed-methods approach involving surveys, interviews, and observational studies was employed to assess current practices and identify areas for improvement. Data analysis revealed that optimal humidity control in storage facilities reduced post-harvest losses by approximately 20% compared to uncontrolled environments. The findings suggest a significant reduction in losses can be achieved through the implementation of advanced storage solutions, particularly those utilising controlled environmental conditions. Recommendation for policy makers includes investment in infrastructure and education programmes to enhance post-harvest handling practices. Côte d'Ivoire, Post-Harvest Handling, Fruit Losses, Vegetable Losses The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *African geography, post-harvest management, agro-technology, yield loss reduction, value chain analysis, participatory research, sustainable agriculture practices*

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