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## Influence of pre-harvest bagging on fruit quality of mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) cv. Mollika

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### ABSTRACT

An investigation was performed for safe mango production by applying minimum use of pesticide, entitled studies on influence of bagging on physico-chemical properties and shelf life of mango cv. Mollika. Mango fruits were bagged at marble stage with different types of bags which constituted various treatments viz.: T<sub>1</sub>: Brown paper double layered bag (BPB), T<sub>2</sub>: White paper single layered bag (WPB), T<sub>3</sub>: Muslin cloth bag (MCB) and T<sub>0</sub>: Non-bagged (control). Bagging with brown paper bag and white paper bag improved fruit retention, weight of fruit, diameter of fruit, pulp weight, total soluble solids, ascorbic acid, percent of citric acid, reducing sugars and  $\beta$ -carotene at harvest and ripe stage over control. Brown paper bag improved fruit color, texture, appearance and sweetness. In all cases, good quality, cleaner, disease and insect free fruits were harvested. The sensory qualities in fruits of brown, white and muslin cloth bags were improved over control. Fruits treated with brown paper bag showed shelf life upto 18 days with lowest weight loss and good physical quality as against 15 days of untreated fruits (control). Pre-harvest bagging also reduced occurrence of spongy tissue and the incidence of mealy bugs. Thus it is concluded that fruit bagging influenced growth and development of mango fruit by the reduction of disease and insect-pest attack and also increases shelf life of mango.

**Key Words:** Mango, Bagging materials, Physico-chemical composition and Sensory evaluation

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### I. Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is one of the most important fruit crops in Bangladesh covering the largest area (50,000 ha.) and the total production (1,90,000 tons) being in the 3rd position after

banana and jackfruit (Bhuyan et al., 2003). It belongs to the family Anacardiaceae and genus *Mangifera* and also acknowledged as the “king of fruits” (Singh, 1996). Mango is known as one of the choicest and well accepted fruits all over the world due to its taste, fascinating flavor, eye-catching color and typical nutritive value. It also helps in balancing the human diet by providing about 64-86 calories per 100 grams of ripe fruits (Rathore et al., 2007). It is a good source of vital protective nutrients like vitamin A, B and C, niacin and also rich in minerals including calcium, potassium and iron (Amin and Hanif, 2002). The ripe fruits are also utilized for processing of several products like ready-to-serve, nectar, squash, panna, syrup, mango leather, mango powder, flakes, toffee, jams and jelly.

Now a day, among various reasons for the impaired production of mango, the attack of insect pests and diseases is of particular importance. So, fruit bagging technology is being promoted in mango orchards in northwest region commercially during the pre-harvest season to protect mango from pest attack besides facilitating the farmers to get quality yield. It is done to prevent damage occurring due to bruises, wounds, scars, diseases, pest attack and to produce cleaner fruit skin with attractive colour (Bayogan et al., 2006). Bagging increased fruit weight and peel colour development from green to yellow, due to less chlorophyll a and chlorophyll b. Regarding the fruit weight, 2-layer bagged fruit had the highest weight (Watanawan et al., 2008). The practice of pre-harvest bagging has been extensively used in several fruit crops to improve skin colour and to reduce splitting (Song and Song, 1993), mechanical damage (Amarante et al., 2002), and sunburn (Bentley and Viveros, 1992) of the skin. Pre-harvest bagging also reduces agrochemical residues in the fruit (Amarante et al., 2002) and improves insect (Bentley and Viveros, 1992) disease (Hofman et al., 1997) and bird damage control. Several authors have reported contradictory results for the effects of pre-harvest bagging on fruit size, maturity and mineral content at harvest for different fruits. This may reflect differences in the type of bag used, fruit stage when it was bagged, duration of fruit exposure to natural light after bag removal (before harvesting), and/or fruit and cultivar specific responses (Hofman et al., 1997). This study investigated the impact of bagging of mango fruit (*Mangifera indica* L.) cv. Mollika with different type of bags on fruit growth, maturity at harvest, mineral content, skin permeance, and storage behaviour. Therefore, the present study was undertaken to compare the efficacy of different bagging materials for getting quality mango.

## II. Materials and Methods

This research was conducted at the Department of Horticulture, HSTU, Dinajpur, Bangladesh during January to July, 2016. Uniformly grown 10 years old Mollika mango grafted trees were selected. The experiment was constructed in Randomized Block Design with five treatments replicated three times with a unit of 50 fruits per treatment per replication. Different types of bags were constituted the treatments viz.: T<sub>1</sub>: Brown paper double layered bag (BPB), T<sub>2</sub>: White paper single layered bag (WPB), T<sub>3</sub>: Muslin cloth bag (MCB) and T<sub>0</sub>: Non-bagged (control). Uniformly grown fruits (40 to 50 days after fruit set) were selected for bagging. The sizes of bags were 25 × 20 cm. Before bagging two perforations (≤ 4 mm diameter) were made for proper ventilation at the bottom of polythene bag and muslin cloth bag. White and brown paper bags were not perforated. The particular bags were wrapped properly at the stalk of each fruit of respective treatments so that it would not be fall down as well as there would not be open space. The observations viz. fruit retention (%) and day's require for harvesting after bagging were recorded. Four fruits were randomly selected per treatment per replication to record various physical and chemical compositions which were estimated by the following procedures:

**Physical parameters:** Length and diameter of fruit were measured with the help of digital vernier caliper and expressed in centimeters (cm). Weight of fruit, pulp and stone was recorded by using electronic balance and expressed in grams (g).

**Chemical composition:** Total soluble solid (TSS), total soluble solids were found out by using Erma Hand Refract meter (0 to 32°Brix) and expressed in °Brix (AOAC, 2004).

**Citric acid (%):** 10g mango pulp was crushed in a mortar and pestle and transferred in a 100 ml volumetric flask. Volume was made up to 100 ml by distilled water. Then the sample was filtered and 10 ml filtrate was taken in a conical flask. The filtrate was titrated against 0.1 N NaOH using

phenolphthalein as an indicator. The results were expressed in percent of citric acid (Moffet et al., 2007).

$$\% \text{ Citric acid} = \frac{0.5 \times \text{Titrate value unknown soln} \times \text{Made volume of unknown sample}}{\text{Titrate value of known soln} \times \text{Aliquot taken} \times \text{Wt. of sample}} \times 100$$

**Reducing sugar (%):** It was determined according to the method described by (Haq and Rab, 2012) and (Santini et al., 2014) with slight modification. Crushing 20 g of the mango pulp was transferred in a 200 ml volumetric flask. The volume was adjusted to 150 ml by purified water. After a few minutes, 10 ml of lead acetate solution and the minimum amount of potassium oxalate solution were added to allow the sugar dissolution. The volume of the resulting solution was adjusted to 200 ml, and was shaken, filtered and transferred in a burette for the titration. This extraction is titrated against Fehling solutions with the help of methylene blue indicator.

$$\% \text{ Reducing sugar} = \frac{\text{Fehling factor} \times \text{Dilution} \times 100}{\text{Titre} \times \text{weight or volume of sample}}$$

**Total sugar:** An aliquot of 50 ml of the clarified, de-leaded filtrate was pipetted to a 100 ml volumetric flask, 5 ml conc. HCl was added and allowed to stand at room temperature for 24 hours. It was neutralized with conc. NaOH solution followed by 0.1 N NaOH solutions. The volume was made upto the mark and transferred to 50 ml burette having an offset tip and performed the titration on Fehlings solution (AOAC, 2000).

$$\% \text{ Total sugar} = \frac{\text{Fehling factor} \times \text{Dilution} \times 100}{\text{weight of sample} \times \text{Titre}}$$

**Ascorbic acid (mg/100g of Fruit pulp):** Ascorbic acid was estimated as described by (McHenry and Graham, 1935) Mango pulp (5g) was mixed with 5 ml of 20% metaphosphoric acid solution and filtered. The filtrate (5 ml) was put in a small beaker and shaken with 2 drops of phenolphthalein solution and titrated against 2, 6-indophenol until pink color developed.

$$\text{Vit C (mg/100 g)} = \frac{0.5 \times \text{Titrate value unknown soln} \times \text{Made volume of unknown sample}}{\text{Titrate value of known soln} \times \text{Aliquot taken} \times \text{Sample weight}}$$

**β-Carotene (μg/100 g of pulp):** β-carotene in mango pulp was determined according to the method of (Nagata and Yamashita, 1992). One gram of pulp was mixed with 10 ml of acetone: hexane mixture (4: 6) and vortex for 5 minutes. The mixture was filtered and absorbance was measured at 453nm, 505nm and 663nm.

$$\beta\text{-carotene (mg /100ml)} = 0.216 A_{663} - 0.304 A_{505} + 0.452 A_{453}$$

**Shelf life of fruits (Days):** Mature fruits were harvested at 80-85 percent maturity. Twenty harvested mature fruits of each treatment were ripened at ambient temperature by using plastic crates with perforation and traditional paddy straw as ripening material. At the bottom, 2.5 cm layer of paddy straw was made on which fruits were arranged. Simultaneously, two more layers were kept on the first layer. After ripening the various observations viz. shelf life (days) and incidence of mealy bug (%) were recorded. The end of shelf life was noted when the fruits were spoiled.

The ripe fruits were also examined for their sensory qualities for assessing color, flavor and texture by panel of five judges with nine point Hedonic Scale viz. 1-Dislike extremely, 2-Dislike very much, 3-Dislike moderately, 4-Dislike slightly, 6-Like slightly, 7-Like moderately, 8-Like very much and 9-Like extremely (Amerine et al., 1965).

The data were analysed by Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) at  $P < 0.05$ . All statistical procedures were conducted using SPSS 22.0 for Windows (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA).

### III. Results and Discussion

#### Fruit retention (%) and harvesting time (days)

Fruit retention was non-significantly improved by pre-harvest bagging with brown paper bag (80.60 %) and white paper bag (80.00%) over control (75.00 %). The fruit retention found in muslin cloth bag was (78.00 %) (Table 01). The harvesting time was significantly delayed (72 days) in brown paper bag as well as muslin cloth bag over white paper bag (71 days). The control took minimum days (70 days) for harvest (Table 01).

**Table 01. Effects of pre-harvest fruit bagging on fruit retention and days required for harvesting after bagging in mango fruit cv. Mollika**

Treatments	Fruit retention (%)	Days required for harvesting after bagging
Brown paper bag	80.60±0.60 a	72±0.58 a
White paper bag	80.00±0.58 a	71±0.58 a
Muslin cloth bag	78.00±0.58 b	72±0.58 a
No bagging (control)	75.00±0.58 c	70±0.58 a

<sup>2</sup>Means ±standard error within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

#### Fruit weight (%)

The fruits of Muslin cloth bag produced the biggest fruit having fruit weight (361.00 g) while in brown paper bag having fruit weight (342.76 g). The fruit weight found in white paper bag (325.76 g) also higher than control but the differences were non-significant. However, minimum fruit weight was recorded in the treatment of control (323.14 g) (Table 02). These findings are accordance with some previous reports that the effects of pre-harvest bagging increased fruit growth, size, and weight (Sharma et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2009; Zhou et al., 2012). Bagging 'Nam Dok Mai 4' mango fruit with two-layer paper bags, newspaper, or golden paper bags increased fruit weight. (Watanawan et al., 2008). Bagging increased fruit weight, size over control fruits (Chonhenchob et al., 2011). Bagging promoted longan fruit development, resulting in larger-sized fruit (Yang et al., 2009). Microenvironment created by different bagging materials might have congenial effect on fruit growth of mango.

#### Fruit length (cm)

The treatment of brown paper bag and muslin cloth bag were gave the maximum fruit length (11.39 cm and 11.36 cm respectively). The fruit length found in white paper bag (11.03 cm) also higher than control but the differences were non-significant. However, minimum fruit length was recorded in the treatment of control (10.65 cm) (Table 02).

**Table 02. Effects of pre-harvest fruit bagging on physical parameters of mango cv. Mollika**

Treat-ments	weight of fruit (g)	Length of fruit (cm)	Diameter of fruit (cm)	Pulp weight (g)	Stone weight (g)	Pulp:Stone ratio
Brown paper bag	342.76±4.95 ab	11.39±0.31a	8.36±0.33 a	271.79±4.39 a	32.11±0.58 c	8.46±0.05 a
White paper bag	325.76±2.98 b	11.03±0.04 a	7.95±0.03 a	244.30±2.31b	36.84±0.91 b	6.63±0.12 b
Muslin cloth bag	361.00±18.20 a	11.36±0.21 a	8.49±0.10 a	268.38±10.4a b	41.10±0.88 a	6.54±0.33 b
No bagging	323.14±3.14 b	10.65±0.32 a	7.95±0.03 a	259.90±10.3a b	39.13±0.84 ab	6.65±0.34 b

<sup>2</sup>Means ±standard error within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

### Fruit diameter (cm)

Pre-harvest fruit bagging with muslin cloth bag (8.49 cm) gave the maximum fruit diameter over white paper bag (7.95 cm) while control (7.95 cm) gave the minimum fruit diameter ([Table 02](#)).

### Pulp weight (g)

The treatment with brown paper bag (271.79 g) had significantly highest pulp weight over control (259.90 g) while the white paper bag gave the minimum (244.30 g). The pulp weight was found in the treatment of muslin cloth bag (268.38 g) which is over than no bagging ([Table 02](#)).

### Stone weight (g)

The maximum stone weight (41.10 g) was recorded in the treatment of muslin cloth bag over control (39.13 g). The treatments white paper bag (36.84 g and brown paper bag (32.11) were also over than control. The minimum stone weight (20.20 g) was recorded in the treatment of brown paper bag ([Table 02](#)).

### Pulp stone ratio

The treatment of brown paper bag (8.46) gave the maximum pulp stone ratio than control (6.65). There was non-significant difference among the rested treatments. Pre-harvest bagging with different bags recorded superior pulp to stone ratio over control fruits ([Haldankar et al., 2015](#)).

### Ascorbic acid (mg/100 g)

The highest ascorbic acid content was recorded in the treatment of no bagging (68.81 mg/100 g) while the lowest was recorded in the brown paper bag (46.51 mg/100 g) ([Table 03](#)). The bagged fruits recorded highest content of vitamin C, sucrose, glucose and fructose over control in Zill mango ([Hongxia et al., 2009](#)). The above results are very close to the findings of ([Haldankar et al., 2015](#)) and ([Sharma et al., 2013](#)) in mango.

**Table 03. Effects of pre-harvest fruit bagging on chemical composition of mango cv. Mollika at harvest**

Treatments	Ascorbic acid (mg/100 g)	TSS ( <sup>o</sup> Brix)	Citric acid (%)	Reducing sugars (%)	Total sugars (%)	β-carotene (μg/100 g)
Brown paper bag	46.51±0.02 d	8.67±0.02 a	20.97±0.00 d	0.59±0.02 a	1.13±0.03 a	527.10±0.35 b
White paper bag	66.51±0.03 b	6.37±0.02 b	32.26±0.03 a	0.60±0.03 a	1.18±0.03 a	332.50±0.23 c
Muslin cloth bag	61.39±0.02 c	6.23±0.04 ac	27.42±0.03 c	0.54±0.04 a	0.94±0.02 b	209.90±0.29 d
No bagging	68.81±0.02 a	5.99±0.01 d	31.78±0.01b	0.51±0.02 a	0.89±0.01 b	563.80±0.11 a

<sup>z</sup>Means ±standard error within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

### Total soluble solid (% Brix)

At harvest stage, the significantly highest soluble solids content was recorded in brown paper bag and white paper bag fruits (8.67 % Brix and 6.37 % Brix, respectively) over the rest of treatments ([Table 03](#)). At ripe stage, the fruits of muslin cloth bag and white paper bag showed the highest soluble solids content (21.43 % Brix and 20.17 % Brix, respectively) while lowest total soluble solids was recorded in brown paper bag (17.00 % Brix) ([Table 04](#)). The findings revealed that percent total soluble solids increased sharply from harvest to ripe fruits have got support of ([Joshi and Roy, 1988](#)) who mentioned that TSS increase initially and declined later on. Similar finding was recorded in some previous studies ([Haldankar et al., 2015](#); [Awad, 2007](#); [Singh et al., 2007](#)).

**Table 04. Effects of pre-harvest fruit bagging on chemical composition of mango cv. Mollika at ripe stage**

Treatments	Ascorbic acid (mg/100 g)	TSS ( <sup>o</sup> Brix)	Citric acid (%)	Reducing sugars (%)	Total sugars (%)	β-carotene (μg/100 g)
Brown paper bag	41.14±0.03 b	17.00±0.02 d	11.72±0.03 a	1.06±0.02 c	17.79±13.1 a	3164.33±0.07 a
White paper bag	26.85±0.04 c	20.17±0.02 b	8.96±0.03 b	1.41±0.02 a	3.84±0.03 a	2449.00±0.27 c
Muslin cloth bag	41.71±0.01 a	21.43±0.03 a	5.52±0.05 d	0.93±0.03 d	2.94±0.03 a	2922.13±0.13 b
No bagging	41.71±0.03 a	17.73±0.03 c	6.91±0.02 c	1.18±0.03 b	3.42±0.03a	1774.10±0.03 d

<sup>z</sup>Means ±standard error within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

### Citric acid (%)

The significantly maximum citric acid content at harvest stage was recorded in the white paper bag fruits treatment (32.26 %) while the minimum was recorded in the treatment of brown paper bags (20.97 %) (Table 03). During ripe stage, maximum citric acid content was recorded in the treatment of brown paper bag while the minimum content of citric acid was recorded in muslin cloth bag fruit (5.52 %) (Table 04). The findings revealed that percent of citric acid decreased sharply from harvest to ripe fruits have got support by (Hiratsuka et al., 2012). They reported that organic acid content was reduced in Mandarin due to pre-harvest bagging.

### Reducing sugars (%)

The highest reducing sugars at harvest stage were recorded in white paper bag (0.60%) over brown paper bag fruits (0.59%) while the lowest was recorded in control (0.51%) (Table 03). During ripe stage, the highest reducing sugars were recorded in white paper bag (1.41%) while the lowest was recorded in muslin cloth bags (0.93%) (Table 04). Similar findings were found in some previous research (Haldankar et al., 2015). They reported that fruits of newspaper bag exhibited the maximum reducing sugars at ripe stage in mango and soluble sugar was increased in grape due to pre-harvest bagging treatments.

### Total sugar (%)

At harvest stage, the significantly maximum total sugar was recorded in the fruits of white paper bag (1.79%) over other bagging treatments and control while the minimum total sugar was recorded in the control fruits (0.89 %) (Table 03). During ripe stage, the fruits of brown paper bag exhibited maximum total sugar (17.79 %) while the minimum total sugar was recorded in the muslin cloth bag fruits (2.94%) (Table 04) This result was confirmed with (Haldankar et al., 2015). They reported that brown paper bag with polythene coating (7.48%) recorded the maximum total sugars in mango which was significant.

### β-carotene (μg/100 g)

The significantly highest β-carotene content at harvest stage was control (563.80 μg )and ripe stage was recorded in the treatment of brown paper bag (3164.33μg) over control (Table 03 and Table 04). These findings are accordance with previous reports that a flesh lycopene and β-carotene content was increased due to pre-harvest bagging treatments in mango (Haldankar et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2006; Zhao et al., 2013).

A way to get better final mango quality traits such as size, colour, taste, nutritional value and flavour is also to build an integrated approach that links the two categories of factors, preharvest and postharvest, which influence the various components of mango quality. Brown paper bag helps to

improve colour, texture, appearance, sweetness and flavor over control (no bagging). The overall impression found at brown paper bag was 9.00 (Table 05).

**Table 05. Effect of pre-harvest fruit bagging on sensory evaluation in fruits of mango cv. Mollika at ripe stage**

Treatments	Colour	Flavour	Texture	Appearance	Sweetness	Overall impression
Brown paper bag	8.33±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 a	8.67±0.33 a	8.00±0.58 a	9.00±0.00 a
White paper bag	7.00±0.00 b	8.67±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 ab	8.00±0.33 a	7.66±0.33 a
Muslin cloth bag	7.00±0.00 b	8.67±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 a	6.67±0.33 bc	7.33±0.33 a	7.33±0.33 a
No bagging	7.00±0.00 b	8.67±0.33 a	7.67±0.33 a	5.67±0.33 c	8.33±0.33 a	4.66±0.66 b

<sup>z</sup>Means ±standard error within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

**Table 06. Effect of pre-harvest fruit bagging on mealy bug incidence and spongy tissue of mango cv. Mollika at ripening stage**

Treatments	Shelf life (days)	Mealy bugs (%)	Spongy tissue (%)
Brown paper bag	17.00±0.58 ab	0.00±0.00 b	0.00±0.00 d
White paper bag	18.00±0.58 a	0.00±0.00 b	0.33±0.33 d
Muslin cloth bag	16.00±0.58 bc	0.00±0.00 b	2.00±0.58 c
No bagging	15.00±0.58 c	25.00±0.58 a	3.00±0.58 a

<sup>z</sup>Means within a column followed by different letter(s) are significantly different (DMRT,  $p < 0.05$ ).

Fruits of white paper bag were free from mealy bugs, whereas fruits of brown paper bag were free from spongy tissue. The maximum incidence of mealy bugs (25 %) and spongy tissue content (3.00%) was recorded in control. Bagging modified the microenvironment near fruit especially in respect to temperature and humidity. The longer shelf life of bagged fruits indicated that the effect of bagging persisted after ripening. Bagging provided physical barrier between fruit and pests. The spongy tissue disorder is associated with convective heat and exposure of fruit to sunlight (Om and Prakash, 2004). Bagging provides protection against both which helped in reducing occurrence of spongy tissue in fruits. In mango cv. Keitt white paper bags at approximately 100 days before harvest reduced anthracnose and stem end rot (Hofman et al., 1997).

#### IV. Conclusion

Pre-harvest fruit bagging has emerged as a novel technology in practice, which is simple, grower friendly, safe and beneficial for production of quality fruits. Brown paper bag showed best performance for fruit retention, days required for harvesting, fruit length, total soluble solids, pulp weight, pulp stone ratio and  $\beta$ -carotene content of fruit. White paper bag contributed best performance for citric acid content, reducing sugar and total sugar content whereas muslin cloth bag increases fruit diameter and stone weight. Bagging had significant effect on mealy bug infestation. Bagging fruits have a good shelf life which is important criteria for exportable mango. Therefore, farmers might be used this technology for commercial mango cultivation for fulfill the demand of quality mango in country and abroad.

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#### APA (American Psychological Association)

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