

Special Issue

Postharvest Handling to Improve the Quality and Shelf-Life of Fruit and Vegetables

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent times, safe high-quality food has become increasingly appreciated and sought after as part of a healthy lifestyle that is widely preferred. In such a diet, fresh fruits and vegetables, which have a limited shelf life and perishability, should be dominant, so the conditions of their harvest and storage are of great importance. In order to ensure year-round access to fruits and vegetables, it is necessary to store them in properly selected conditions. Obtaining high quality fruits and vegetables can be achieved by acting on many levels, but primarily by introducing new technologies in cultivation and during storage. At the production stage, it is very important to apply good agricultural, production and hygienic practices as well as integrated protection of fruit and vegetables. The quality and safety of fresh fruits and vegetables can be improved by implementing innovative systems and existing standards. Vegetables and fruits are subject to packaging, so it is important to follow procedures for cleaning fresh products immediately after harvesting, maintaining hygienic conditions during harvesting, storage and packaging, and continuous quality monitoring.

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