

Ramesh Yadava
IAS (Retd.)
Advisor



D. O. No. : 108/Compl. Adviser/2016

Agriculture, Agriculture Education
and Research Department
Government of Uttar Pradesh

91, Naveen Bhawan, U. P. Secretariat, Lucknow.

Off. : 0522-2235447

Resi. : 0522-2209305

Mob. : 09415116677


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Message

I am extremely delighted to know that UP Council of Agricultural Research(UPCAR), along with Integral University, Lucknow is organizing “International Congress on Post-Harvest Technologies of Agricultural Produce for Sustainable Food and Nutritional Security” at Lucknow from 10-12 November 2016.

Post-harvest losses(PHL) happen at every stage of the supply chain and account for 20-30% food losses globally. Food losses contribute to high food prices by removing part of the supply from the market. One of the surest and arguably the most affordable ways to feed more people sustainably is to ensure that the food already produced is not lost or wasted between the farm and fork. There are a wide range of postharvest technologies that can be adopted to reduce losses throughout the process of preharvest, harvest, cooling, temporary storage, transport, handling and marketing. The postharvest losses of fruits and vegetables in the developing countries account for almost 50 % of the produce. India, the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables, loses 35 to 40% of produce because of excessive softening. The softening that accompanies ripening of fruits and some vegetables exacerbates damage during shipping & handling. This plays a major role in determining the cost factor, because it has a direct impact on palatability, consumer acceptability, shelf life and postharvest diseases/pathogen resistance. I am happy to note that matter figures prominently in the congress themes and technical programme. Addressing these issues will help farmers immensely.

I wish all the best for the Congress.


(Ramesh Yadava)
Advisor