Improving smallholder farmer incomes through strategic market development in mango supply chains in southern Vietnam

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Activity2.1TitleHot Water Treatment Study – Southern Vietnam

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Australian Government Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

Background

- Disease breakdown in mango is the biggest limitation for the development of longdistance markets either domestic or export.
- Previous studies undertaken, reported HWT regimes of 55C for 5 min was suitable for the Cat Hoa Loc variety, and 53C for 7 min for the Cat Chu optimizes disease control whilst minimizing peel damage.
- However, observations are that theses regimes are causing significant heat related damage.
- It has been hypothesized that the recent adoption of protective bagging may be influencing skin sensitivity
- Other plausible causes are excessive use of nitrogen fertilizers, calcium deficiency, fruit harvesting too soon after a significant rain event or fruit immaturity.

Aim & Purpose

Activity 2.3: Hot Water Treatment Study – Southern Vietnam

Focus

Improving hot water treatment to maximize disease whilst minimizing negative impacts on skin quality.

Research questions

- What on-farm, post-harvest and marketing innovations are likely to generate the most significant impacts to reduce losses, increase productivity and quality outputs that will improve returns directly related to smallholder incomes?
- What innovations have the most cost-effective and positive impacts on productivity, losses, quality and harvest timing, leading to improved price and farmer income?

Achievements

Expected outputs – current study

- Understanding the effect of the addition on fungicide to enhance HWT efficacy
- Understanding the influence of bagging on skin sensitivity to heat treatments
- Understand if pre-conditioning can have a role in reducing heat damage
- Develop a better temperature regime that will minimize damage
- Understand role does cool chain management play in managing disease within Hanoi/Hong Kong chains
- Have a HWT for disease control model that can be implemented into commercial operations.

Lessons learnt

Study expectations:

- Lessons from Australian study can be applied to trial procedures
- Capacity building within the postharvest research team.

Pathway to completion

- Undertake trial program Aug/Sep
- Draft Report Mid November
- ▶ Final report 8th Dec
- Industry & research papers.

Future Opportunities

- Results from trials will be able to be incorporated into local packhouses for developing chains to long distance markets Hanoi/HK/China and other export opportunities.
- The experimental work is directly applicable to partner countries and initially trialing is essential for the development of long-distance export markets.