



Welcome to the Post-harvest Operations Compendium !

Through the years people around the world, particularly farmers in rural areas, have created and developed techniques for preventing food losses and consequently having adequate food supplies. Researchers from research centres and universities have improved a number of these techniques and procedures. FAO has provided support to the prevention of food losses in developing countries over many years.

Post-harvest technology is as important as production technology, since it helps to avoid or reduce losses of crops produced. There are some post-harvest technologies, which should be disseminated globally in order to increase food security, particularly in developing countries.

One important element of the Information Network on Post-harvest Operations (INPhO) is the Post-harvest-Compendium. The Post-harvest-Compendium describes issues of paramount importance to post-harvest operations or post-production activities for staple foods and edible crops.

The Post-harvest-Compendium is designed to be used through the Internet: to provide technical and updated information about how, when and what is done after production of the crops in different communities around the world. It also provides information on other aspects associated with post-

harvest activities. These include crop and family labour, tools and basic equipment involved in production and postproduction, main causes of losses, pest control, socio-economic issues, gender issues, commercialisation, nutritional value, processing techniques, by-products, product quality and so forth.

Development of the Post-harvest-Compendium has been initiated. Several chapters related to specific crops and specific post-harvest information are currently in preparation by crops expert under the supervision of recognised institutions such as IRRI, CIAT, INDDA, APCC, and others.

This information will provide global support to post-harvest activities, and will improve food security in the future.

Any comments, suggestions, or recommendations relevant to the Post-harvest-Compendium are welcome.

Post-harvest Management Group
AGSI-FAO-Rome
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Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[back to main Table of content](#)

Introduction

	Economic & social impact	World trade	Primary Products	Secondary & derived products	Requirements for export and quality assurance	Consumer preference
Cereals & Grains						
Wheat						
Sorghum						
Sorghum (industrial use)						
Sorghum & Millet						
Rice						
Quinoa	 ?					

Fruits & Vegetables

Plantain
(case
study)



Banana
plantain

**Oilseeds**

Coconut

**Roots & Tubers**

Cassava

**Leguminoses**

Phaseolus
Beans



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Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[back to main Table of content](#)

Post-production Operations

Pre-
harvest operations Harvesting Transport Threshing Drying Cleaning **Packaging** **Storage**

Cereals & Grains

Wheat



Sorghum



Sorghum
(industrial
use)



Sorghum &
Millet



Rice



Quinoa



Fruits & Vegetables

Plantain
(case
study)



Banana
plantain



Oilseeds

Coconut



Roots & Tubers

Cassava



Leguminosae

Phaseolus

Beans



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Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[back to main Table of content](#)

Pest Control

Pest species	Relative status of major pest	Pest control
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Cereals & Grains

Wheat



Sorghum



Sorghum
(industrial
use)



Sorghum &
Millet

Rice



Quinoa

Fruits & Vegetables

Plantain
(case
study)

Banana

plantain

Oilseeds

Coconut

Roots & Tubers

Cassava

Leguminoses

Phaseolus

Beans



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Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[back to main Table of content](#)

Economic & social considerations

Overview of costs and losses	Major problems	Proposed improvements	other
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Cereals & Grains

Wheat

Sorghum

Sorghum
(industrial
use)

Sorghum &
Millet



Rice



Quinoa

Fruits & Vegetables

Plantain
(case
study)



Banana
plantain



Oilseeds

Coconut



Roots & Tubers

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Leguminoses

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Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[Welcome !](#)

Table of content

[Introduction](#)
[Post-production Operations](#)
[Overall losses](#)
[Pest control](#)
[Economic & social considerations](#)
[References](#)
[Annex](#)
[Further reading](#)

Cereals & Grains

Wheat



Sorghum



Sorghum
(industrial)



use)

Sorghum &
Millet

Rice



Quinoa



!?

!?

!?

**Fruits &
Vegetables**Plantain
(case
study)Banana
plantain**Oilseeds**

Coconut



Roots & Tubers

Cassava

**Leguminosae**

Phaseolus

Beans

**Pests**

Insects

[Introduction](#) [Major insect pests of stored foods](#)

[Control Methods](#)

[References](#)

Vertebrates

[Introduction](#) [Major vertebrate pests of stored foods](#)

[Indicators of pest infestation](#)

[Management of rodent populations](#)

[References Annex](#)

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[Home](#) > [ar](#).[cn](#).[de](#).[en](#).[es](#).[fr](#).[id](#).[it](#).[ph](#).[po](#).[ru](#).[sw](#)

Compendium on Post-harvest Operations

[Welcome !](#)

Table of content

[Introduction](#)
[Post-
production
Operations](#)
[Overall
losses](#)
[Pest
control](#)
[Economic &
social
considerations](#)
[References](#)
[Annex](#)
[Further
reading](#)

Cereals & Grains

Wheat



Sorghum



Sorghum
(industrial
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Sorghum &

Millet



Rice



Quinoa



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Fruits & Vegetables

Plantain
(case study)



Banana
plantain



Oilseeds

Coconut



Roots & Tubers

Cassava





Leguminosae

Phaseolus
Beans



Pests

Insects

[Introduction](#) [Major insect pests of stored foods](#)

[Control Methods](#)

[References](#)

Vertebrates

[Introduction](#) [Major vertebrate pests of stored foods](#)

[Indicators of pest infestation](#)

[Management of rodent populations](#)

[References](#) [Annex](#)

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