

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN SELECTION OF MANGOES FOR YOUR ORCHARD IN PAKISTAN

By
M.H. Panhwar

Fruit characteristics.

- Good colour, attractive appearance, market appeal (yellow orange or red but not green).
- Acceptable local and international market size of 300-500 grams.
- Good taste, no turpentine smells, firm to extend shelf life.
- Long shelf life.
- Good transport characteristics.
- No internal break downs like soft nose, stem end rot (Shakh) and bacterial black spot.
- Reduced incidence of sap burn.

Tree characteristics.

- Regular bearer year after year.
- High yields.
- Dwarf tree, occupying minimum area, large number of trees/acre and fruit.
- Tree resistance to adverse climatic conditions like high velocity winds, frost and flooding.
- Fruit in clusters or more than two fruits per panicle.
- Tree resistance to diseases like anthracnose, powdery mildew, malformation and bacterial black spot.

- Short juvenile period, i.e., early first crop.
- Very early or very late.
- High price per kg of fruit, high yield per tree, large number of trees per acre and highest income per acre.
- Ease of harvest, fruit production on lowest branches.
- Ease of cultural practices like dead wood removal, spraying for nutrient and disease control.
- Tree with open branches to allow entry of sun light and wind to pass through.
- Non-vigorous tree allowing one good post-harvest vegetative flush and 2-3 flushes a year when juvenile.
- Spreading rather than upright tree.