

HARVESTING

- The pomegranate starts bearing after second years but flowering and fruiting should be taken from third year onwards for proper growth and development of plants.
- Fruits should be harvested at right maturity with secateurs or scissor.
- Early harvest leads to poor quality of fruits and late harvesting of fruits on the other hand results in a physiological disorder known as aril browning/ blacking

Table: The Flowering and harvesting period of pomegranate in India

Flower regulation (season)	Period of flowering	Period of harvesting
Ambe bahar (Autumn)	January-February	July-August
Mrig bahar (Rain)	June-July	December-January
Hast bahar (Winter)	September-October	March-April

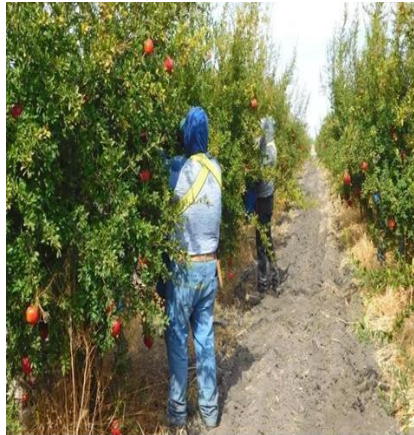


Fig. Harvesting of Pomegranate

DO's and DON'Ts of Harvesting

DO's	DON'Ts
- Harvest in the morning or evening.	- Pull fruits directly.
- Harvest mature fruits only; use clippers and bags.	Bruise the base while cutting
- Sanitize scissors/clippers with 1% sodium hypochlorite.	- Keep longer stem ends
- Use ladders/tripod stands.	- Keep empty crates in the sun.
- Use perforated plastic crates lined with foam	Overfill crates; keep them in shade
- Stack crates under shade.	- Damage calyx during harvesting or storage.

IMPORTANT LINKS

Video link

1. https://youtu.be/msrVQTg3iK8?si=6EtjJqgaFWLb8c_9

2. <https://youtu.be/kE5BsyVghtU?si=aUwkbu-H5JBZo4GT>

(Harvesting of pomegranate)

Standards for Export Market

There are some desirable fruit characters of fresh pomegranate which are considered indispensable for export purpose.

These are:

- Produce should confirm to minimum residue limits of European Union.
 - Dark rose-pink colour of the fruit
 - Fruit weight around 500 g
 - Round and globose shape of the fruit
 - Uniform size and shape of the fruit in a pack or box
 - Dark rose-pink arils
 - Softness of the seeds
 - Higher sugar content with soluble solids content around 16-17° Brix
 - Free from scars, disease spots, insect injury, scratches, *etc.*
 - Smooth cutting at the stem end
 - Pleasant flavour and aroma
- Intact bracts (calyx) without any damage

Important link:

<https://youtu.be/uufLtx0Kym4?si=JF714dKB5-BAIMwU>