

**EFFECT OF SOME POSTHARVEST
TREATMENTS ON SWEET
PEPPER FRUIT
QUALITY**

By

NEAMA MOHAMED HUSSEIN AHMED

B.Sc. Agric. Sc. (Horticulture), Ain Shams University, 2006

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NEAMA MOHAMED HUSSEIN AHMED

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This thesis for M. Sc. degree has been approved by

Dr. Shamel Ahmed Shanan

Prof. Emeritus of Vegetable Crops, Department of Horticulture,
Faculty of Agriculture, Al-Azhar University.

Dr. Mohamed Hashem El-Deb

Prof. Emeritus of Vegetable Crops, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain
Shams University.

Dr. Ahmed Abou El-yazied Abd El-Hafize

Prof. of Vegetable Crops, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams
University.

Dr. Mamdouh Mohamed Fawzy Abdallah

Prof. Emeritus of Vegetable Crops, Department of Horticulture,
Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University (Principal
supervisor).

Date of Examination: 30 / 4 / 2015

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By

NEAMA MOHAMED HUSSEIN AHMED

B.Sc. Agric. Sc. (Horticulture), Ain Shams University, 2006

Under the supervision of:

Dr. Mamdouh Mohamed Fawzy Abdallah

Prof. Emeritus of Vegetable Crops, Department of Horticulture,
Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University (Principal
supervisor).

Dr. Ahmed Abou El-yazied Abd El-Hafize

Prof. of Vegetable Crops, Department of Horticulture, Faculty of
Agriculture, Ain Shams University.

Dr. Rawia El-bassiouny Ibrahim El-bassiouny

Head of Research Emeritus of Vegetable Handling, Horticulture
Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center.

ABSTRACT

Neama Mohamed Hussein Ahmed: Effect of some Postharvest Treatments on Sweet Pepper Fruit Quality. Unpublished M.Sc. Thesis, Department of Horticulture, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University, 2015.

Storage experiment was conducted on sweet pepper fruits testy F₁ hybrid during two successive seasons (2011-2012 and 2012 -2013) to study the effect of hot water at (45 and 55°C), chitosan at the concentration of 0.5 and 1% and combined between them as postharvest treatment in reducing chilling injury and mainlining quality of fruits during storage at 5 and 8°C for 28 days. For hot water treatment, the obtained results revealed that sweet pepper fruits dipped in hot water at 45°C was the most effective treatment in reducing chilling injury (pitting , calyx darkening and seed darkening), weight loss and shriveling and maintained high content of total soluble solids, ascorbic acid and total carotenoids after 28 days of storage at 5°C as compared with untreated control. Sweet pepper fruits sprayed with chitosan at 0.5 or 1% were much better in reducing chilling injury and had significantly greater fruit firmness and retained highest values of total carotenoids after 28 days of storage at 5°C as compared with untreated control. No decay was observed in sweet pepper fruits treated with hot water at 45°C + chitosan at 0.5% or 1% and stored at 5 or 8°C, however, untreated control stored at 5°C gave the highest value of decay incidence. This treatment storage at 5°C did not develop any pitting treatment and seed darkening after 21 days of storage and gave traces if these character of the fruits after 28 days of storage.

Key Words: Sweet Pepper, Hot water, Chitosan, Postharvest, Storage temperature, Chilling injury.

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