

Wax Coating for Yams and Root Crops

Invention summary:

Non edible wax formulation developed to extend the storage life of yams and root crops.

Technology overview:

Wax coatings are applied to many horticultural commodities to delay senescence and control moisture loss. Wax coatings modify gas exchange and thereby reduce the rate of respiration extending the shelf life of crops. The wax formulation also protects the commodities by enhancing mechanical strength of the outer dermal layer while facilitating the limited exchange of respiratory gases and minimizing their release of moisture. This is a paraffin wax based non edible hot wax suitable to extend the storage life of yams and root crops like manioc under low temperature storage.

Potential application :

To extend the storage life of commodities such as manioc, kiriala and similar root crops

Advantages of the wax:

- Extends the storage life of roots and yams to be exported
- Reduces post-harvest losses
- Improves the cosmetic appearance of commodities
- Reduces disease incidence and severity
- Increases foreign exchange

Inventor /s:

Ms. Shiranthi Perera

Dr. Ilmi Hewajulige



Technology Information:

Senior Deputy Director
Food Technology Section
Industrial Technology Institute
503A, Halbarawa Gardens
Thalahena,
Malabe

Tel: +94112797334

E-mail: sdd_fts@iti.lk