

Comparative studies on existing and improved postharvest practices to ascertain the present status of the postharvest industry and to identify the areas for postharvest technology improvement.

Assessment of technical and economics feasibilities of adopting improved technologies in the postharvest system is important to improve the present postharvest practices in both perishables. A study was conducted to ascertain the technical feasibility of adopting improved postharvest technologies in the postharvest system of chilly by comparing the existing an improved methods. The enhancement of quality of the product and reduction in quantitative losses by adopting improved technologies over the traditional practices, as revealed by the study, are summarized in table I.

Table I. Enhancement of quality of chili and reduction in quantitative losses by adopting improved technologies over the traditional practices.

Postharvest Practice		Pigment Concentration (mol/dm ³)	presence of impurities %	Losses % (by weight)
Harvesting	Existing	0.00487	-	9.97
	Improved	0.00637		1.75
Drying	Existing	0.0098	1.95	16.94
	Improved	0.0225	0.78	4.36