

# International Journal of Statistics and Applied Mathematics

ISSN: 2456-1452

Maths 2023; SP-8(6): 490-496

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<https://www.mathsjournal.com>

Received: 04-09-2023

Accepted: 05-10-2023

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## Effect of wax coating treatments on shelf-life and chemical composition of custard apple (*Annona squamosa* L.)

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### Abstract

The present investigation was conducted at Horticulture Processing Laboratory in the Department of fruit science, College of Agriculture, Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya Raipur during the year 2019-2020. The treatment consisted 10 different concentration of paraffin wax emulsion along with polythene wrap and  $\text{KMnO}_4$  (0.1%) viz. T<sub>0</sub>: Control, T<sub>1</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (8%), T<sub>2</sub>: paraffin wax emulsion (10%), T<sub>3</sub>: paraffin wax emulsion (12%), T<sub>4</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + Polythene wrap, T<sub>5</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + Polythene wrap, T<sub>6</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + Polythene wrap, T<sub>7</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + Polythene wrap +  $\text{KMnO}_4$  (0.1%), T<sub>8</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap +  $\text{KMnO}_4$  (0.1%), T<sub>9</sub>: Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap +  $\text{KMnO}_4$  (0.1%) during 2, 4, 6 and 8 days of storage. The overall best result is observed by treatment T<sub>8</sub> in all the chemical parameters were observed under the superiority of treatment 10% paraffin wax emulsion coated fruits with wrapping polythene and  $\text{KMnO}_4$  (0.1%) during storage period.

**Keywords:**  $\text{KMnO}_4$  and chemical parameter, paraffin wax emulsion, polythene wrap

### 1. Introduction

Custard apple (*Annona squamosa* L.) is one of the finest Tropical American fruit gifts to India. It is well recognised in India, Australia, California, Brazil and Mexico as fruit. Mostly a sub-tropical fruit has established in Andhra Pradesh with a tropical climate. In India, it is also known as 'Sweet sop' or Sugar apple. Custard apple is the "fruit of poor people". Custard apple are climacteric and have a very short storage life because of that a rapid maturation after harvest. All annonaceous fruits are indigenous to Tropical America where spread to different parts of the world. Fruits are heart shaped, fleshly syncarp formed by the fusion of the pistils and receptacle, pericarp is the edible part.

### 2. Materials and Methods

The present investigation was undertaken at Processing Laboratory, Department of Fruit Science, and College of Agriculture Raipur during the year 2019-2020. It consisted of 10 treatments and 3 replication which carried out in a Complete Randomized Design. Each replication consisted of 12 fruits in each treatment and total number of fruits 360 for experiment.

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**Treatment Details**

S. No.	Treatments	Notations used
1.	Control	T <sub>0</sub>
2.	Paraffin wax emulsion 8%	T <sub>1</sub>
3.	Paraffin wax emulsion 10%	T <sub>2</sub>
4.	Paraffin wax emulsion 12%	T <sub>3</sub>
5.	Paraffin wax emulsion 8% + Polythene wrap	T <sub>4</sub>
6.	Paraffin wax emulsion 10% + Polythene wrap	T <sub>5</sub>
7.	Paraffin wax emulsion 12% + Polythene wrap	T <sub>6</sub>
8.	Paraffin wax emulsion 8% + Polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	T <sub>7</sub>
9.	Paraffin wax emulsion 10% + Polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	T <sub>8</sub>
10.	Paraffin wax emulsion 12% + Polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	T <sub>9</sub>

**3. Results and Discussion**

The chemical parameters of custard apple fruits were recorded for the following variables *i.e.* TSS, pH, acidity, ascorbic acid, reducing sugar, non-reducing sugar and total sugar are presented in table.

The treatment T<sub>8</sub> (paraffin wax emulsion 10% + KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrapped) recorded maximum total soluble solids contents (31.2, 33.47, 35.16, 38.33%) followed by Treatment T<sub>9</sub> and T<sub>7</sub>. However, the treatments T<sub>2</sub> & T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>3</sub> & T<sub>4</sub> having the respective total soluble solid 32.34 & 33.25 and 33.25 & 33.91 were recorded non-significant differences with each other at 8<sup>th</sup> day of storage.

**3.1 Total soluble solids (%)**

**Table 1:** Effects of post-harvest treatments on total soluble solids of custard apple during storage periods

Total Soluble Solid (%)					
Notations	Treatments	Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	21.15	23.50	25.00	26.93
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	23.05	24.75	25.83	28.96
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	26.83	28.11	29.83	32.34
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	27.16	29.33	30.33	33.25
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	28.16	29.81	32.28	33.91
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	28.33	30.85	32.85	35.15
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	27.33	29.13	31.39	33.02
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	29.33	32.45	34.25	35.72
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	31.20	33.47	35.16	38.33
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	30.20	32.07	34.09	37.06
	SEM±	0.25	0.27	0.30	0.41
	CD at 5%	0.76	0.82	0.89	1.21

**3.2 pH**

The data recorded on pH of custard apple fruit seems to be affected by various post-harvest treatments are presented. It is revealed from the data that pH value, of custard apple during

storage period was not much significantly influenced with each other at 5% level of significance. The maximum pH values of custard apple was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> followed by the treatment T<sub>9</sub> & T<sub>7</sub> having respective.

**Table 2:** Effects of post-harvest treatments on pH of custard apple fruit during storage

pH					
Notations	Treatments	Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	5.16	5.13	4.99	4.50
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	5.22	5.21	5.03	4.74
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	5.21	5.20	5.06	4.82
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	5.23	5.20	5.08	4.93
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	5.28	5.26	5.12	5.06
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	5.30	5.29	5.13	5.09
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	5.26	5.24	5.16	5.10
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	5.34	5.33	5.20	5.14
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	5.37	5.35	5.26	5.22
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	5.32	5.31	5.20	5.17
	SEM±	0.008	0.008	0.001	0.02
	CD at 5%	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04

**3.3 Titrable Acidity (%)**

During the storage period the acidity of custard apple fruit reduced under all treatments during 8 days of storage. In the present study decrease in acidity could be explained with the fact that organic acid might be utilized rapidly in respiration or conversion of organic acid into sugar from pre-climacteric

to post-climacteric stages. Acidity per cent and storage periods followed a linear decline trend on account of conversion of organic acids into sugar. The minimum acidity (0.28, 0.25, 0.22, 0.19%) was recorded under the treatment paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap followed by the treatment T<sub>9</sub> and T<sub>7</sub>.

**Table 3:** Effect of post-harvest treatments on terrible acidity (%) of custard apple fruit during storage

Notations	Treatments	Acidity (%)			
		Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	0.47	0.43	0.39	0.35
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	0.37	0.34	0.30	0.28
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	0.35	0.31	0.29	0.27
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	0.34	0.32	0.30	0.27
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	0.33	0.31	0.28	0.26
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	0.34	0.30	0.26	0.24
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	0.32	0.31	0.28	0.24
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	0.31	0.30	0.27	0.23
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	0.28	0.25	0.22	0.19
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	0.31	0.28	0.27	0.22
	SEM±	0.007	0.01	0.02	0.02
	CD at 5%	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.09

**3.4 Ascorbic Acid (mg/100g pulp)**

The decrease in ascorbic acid and content on prolonged storage might be mainly due to oxidation phenomenon. The superiority of treatment T<sub>8</sub> (paraffin wax emulsion (10%) +

KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap) recorded maximum ascorbic acid content (45.06, 44.09, 38.38, 36.75 mg /100g pulp) which was followed by the treatment T<sub>9</sub> and T<sub>7</sub>.

**Table 4:** Effect of post-harvest treatments on ascorbic acid (mg/100g pulp) of custard apple fruit during storage

Notations	Treatments	Ascorbic acid (mg/100g pulp)			
		Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	35.73	33.34	27.07	18.41
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	37.46	35.4	30.27	20.13
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	38.73	36.46	32.19	22.39
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	40.68	39.25	33.34	24.63
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	41.27	37.64	34.14	26.19
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	41.58	38.34	34.86	27.80
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	42.12	40.27	34.97	31.72
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	43.60	41.38	36.57	34.22
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	45.06	44.09	38.38	36.75
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	42.35	40.47	35.25	33.44
	SEM±	0.10	0.16	0.38	0.36
	CD at 5%	0.30	0.49	1.15	1.07

**3.5 Total sugar (%)**

As per the data is concerned, the maximum total sugar content (27.14, 29.41, 30.88, 24.90%) was recorded under superiority of treatments T<sub>8</sub> at 2, 4, 6 & 8 days of storage period, respectively. The treatment T<sub>8</sub> paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap) proved to be significant among all other treatments followed by treatment T<sub>9</sub> and T<sub>7</sub>

having respective total sugar contents 25.24, 26.24, 27.28 & 23.15% and 23.79, 25.85, 27.57 & 23.15% at present investigation.

The total sugar per cent of fruit showed an increasing trend up to 6 days of storage and thereafter declined on 8<sup>th</sup> days of storage period. Increase in total sugar might be due to partial hydrolysis of complex carbohydrate.

**Table 5:** Effect of post-harvest treatments on total sugar (%) of custard apple fruit during storage

Notations	Treatments	Total Sugar (%)			
		Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	15.74	18.21	20.49	17.67
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	18.91	20.05	21.72	18.25
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	20.95	22.45	23.38	19.21
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	22.81	23.30	23.82	20.56
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)+ polythene wrap	22.50	23.8	24.82	21.18
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)+ polythene wrap	23.61	24.63	25.51	21.18
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)+ polythene wrap	23.63	25.38	26.47	21.66
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KmnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	23.79	25.85	27.57	23.15
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KmnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	27.14	29.41	30.88	24.9
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KmnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	25.24	26.24	27.28	23.15
	SEM±	0.06	0.13	0.14	0.19
	CD at 5%	0.20	0.41	0.42	0.58

**3.6 Reducing sugar (%)**

The effect of paraffin wax emulsion along with KmnO<sub>4</sub> & polythene wrap on reducing sugar content of custard apple at

ambient temperature are in treatment T<sub>8</sub> paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + KmnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap recorded maximum reducing sugar per cent (21.14, 22.22, 23.64,

13.86%) followed by treatment T<sub>9</sub> and T<sub>7</sub> having respective reducing sugar percentage of 19.69, 20.48, 21.39 & 12.53%

and 18.07, 19.58, 21.15 12.23% at 2, 4, 6 & 8 days of storage period under present experiment.

**Table 6:** Effect of post-harvest treatments on reducing sugar (%) of custard apple fruit during storage

Notations	Treatments	Reducing Sugar (%)			
		Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	12.50	14.66	16.34	10.62
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	14.63	15.58	17.03	10.72
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	16.39	17.89	18.25	10.67
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	17.05	18.12	18.43	11.24
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	17.12	18.22	18.74	11.51
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	17.62	18.48	19.28	11.45
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	17.65	18.88	19.69	11.71
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	18.07	19.58	21.15	12.23
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	21.14	22.22	23.64	13.86
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	19.69	20.48	21.39	12.53
	SEM±	0.02	0.07	0.18	0.13
	CD at 5%	0.09	0.22	0.54	0.38

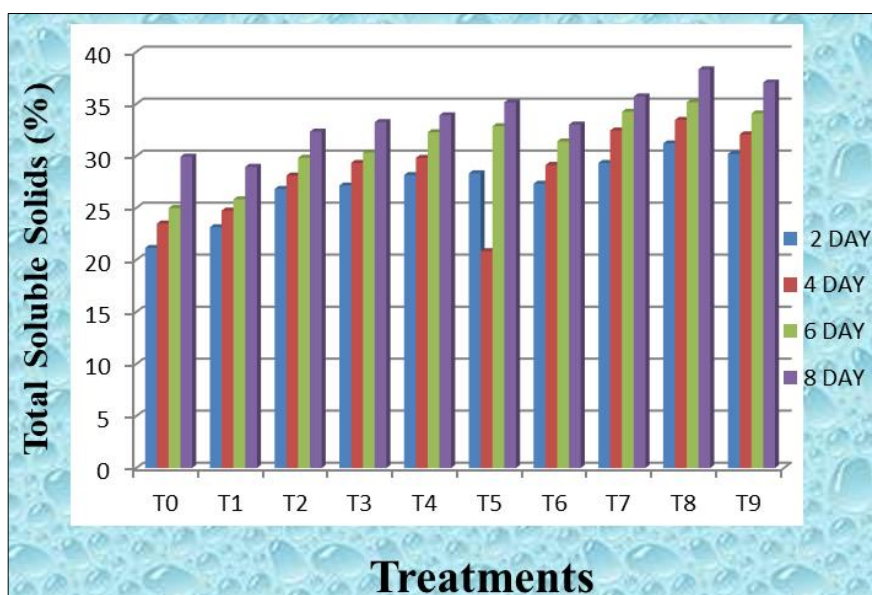
**3.7 Non-Reducing sugar (%)**

The maximum non-reducing sugar content of custard apple fruit (6.02, 7.3, 7.24 & 11.04%) was noticed under the superiority of treatment T<sub>8</sub> paraffin wax emulsion (10%)+ KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap, the minimum non-reducing sugar (3.24, 3.55, 4.15 & 7.05%) was observed under control. The storage period affects non-reducing sugars of custard apple as in uncoated fruits shows minimum content of sugar

(3.24%) on 2<sup>nd</sup> day of storage, while it increases moderately (7.05%) on 8<sup>th</sup> day of storage period. Among all the treatments, the treatment T<sub>8</sub> was found superior in respect to non-reducing sugar content in custard apple fruit. The increment of non-reducing sugar might be due to conversion of polysaccharides to monosaccharide’s on increasing level of non-reducing sugar.

**Table 7:** Effects of post-harvest treatments on non-reducing sugar (%) of custard apple fruit during storage

Notations	Treatments	Non-reducing Sugar (%)			
		Storage days			
		2	4	6	8
T <sub>0</sub>	Control	3.24	3.55	4.15	7.05
T <sub>1</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%)	4.28	4.47	4.69	7.53
T <sub>2</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%)	4.66	4.56	5.13	8.54
T <sub>3</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%)	5.13	5.18	5.39	9.32
T <sub>4</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap	5.38	5.58	6.08	9.67
T <sub>5</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap	5.99	6.15	6.23	9.73
T <sub>6</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap	5.98	6.50	6.78	9.95
T <sub>7</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (8%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	5.72	6.27	6.42	10.91
T <sub>8</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	6.02	7.30	7.24	11.04
T <sub>9</sub>	Paraffin wax emulsion (12%) + polythene wrap + KMnO <sub>4</sub> (0.1%)	5.55	5.76	5.89	10.98
	SEM±	0.05	0.12	0.08	0.12
	CD at 5%	0.15	0.37	0.23	0.36



**Fig 1:** Effects of post-harvest treatment on total soluble solids (%) of custard apple

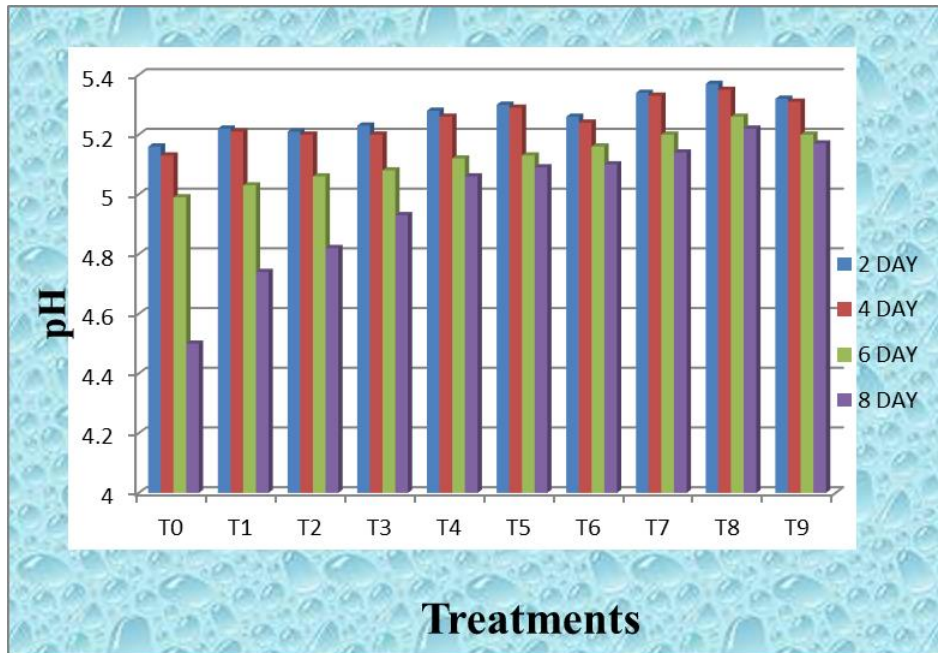


Fig 2: Effects of post-harvest treatment on pH of custard apple

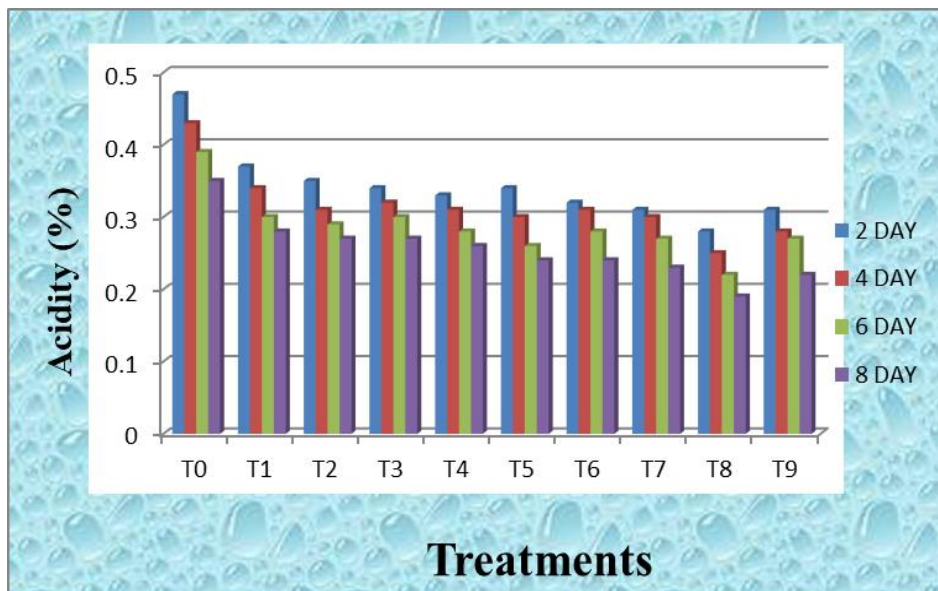


Fig 3: Effects of post-harvest treatment on acidity (%) of custard apple

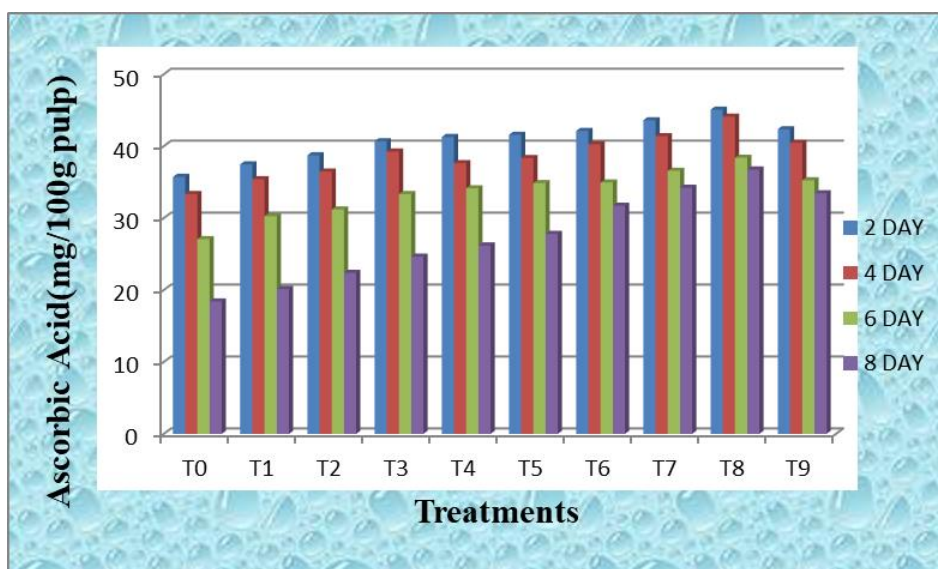


Fig 4: Ascorbic Acid (mg/100g pulp) as influenced by different post-harvest treatment during storage in custard apple

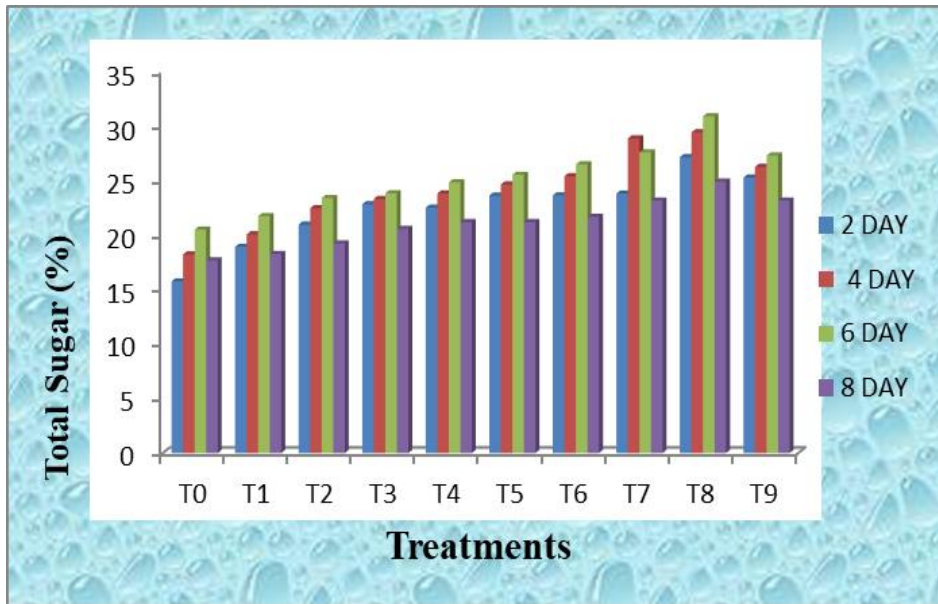


Fig 5: Effects of post-harvest treatment on total sugar (%) of custard apple

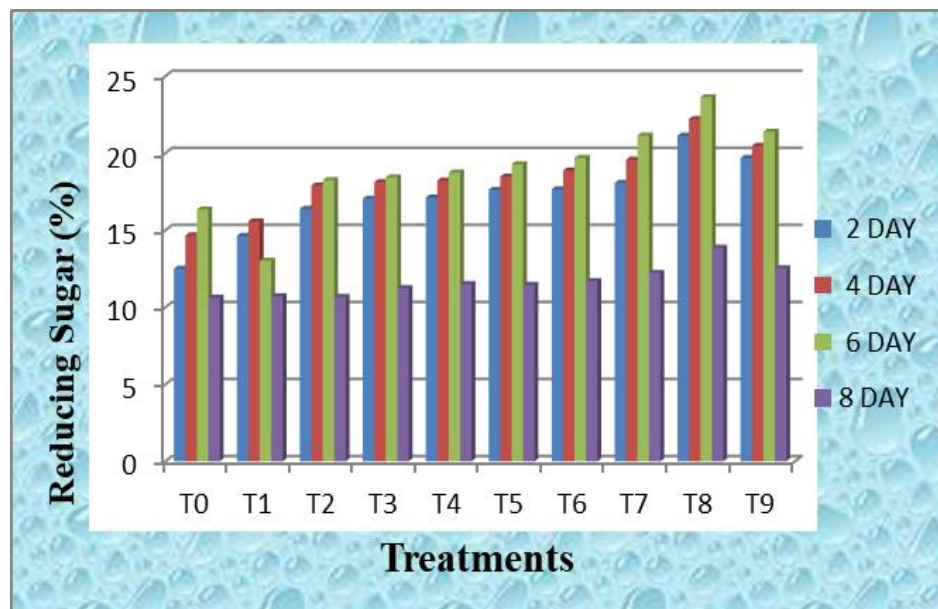


Fig 6: Effects of post-harvest treatment on reducing sugar (%) of custard apple

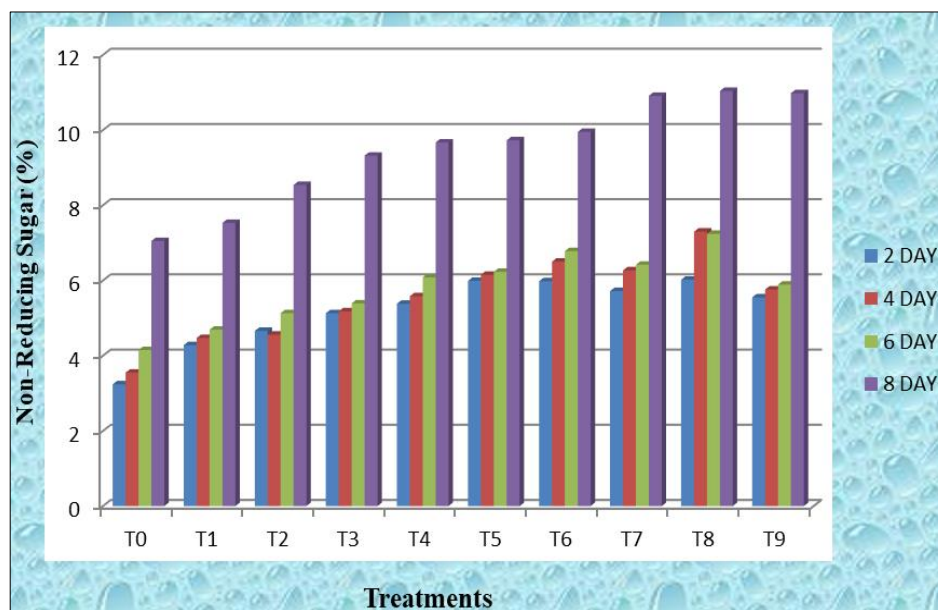


Fig 7: Effects of post-harvest treatment on non-reducing sugar (%) of custard apple

#### 4. Conclusion

Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) + KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) + polythene wrap was found superior among all other post-harvest treatments. The paraffin wax emulsion (10%) along with KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) and polythene wrapping was found effective for enhancing chemical composition of custard apple fruit during storage period at ambient condition. Paraffin wax emulsion (10%) coating along with KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.1%) and polythene wrapping delayed the ripening process and prolonged shelf-life and storability of custard apple fruits up to 8 days of storage without affecting their physical composition.

#### 5. Suggestion

- Custard apple can be further analysed under various agro-climatic conditions stable yield and quality condition.
- Custard apple Fruit reaction to similar treatments varies among species and cultivars and physiological status of fruit. Hence, the experiment should be carried out on other fruit cultivars for extend their shelf life and boost demand in the industry.
- Relatable findings, on the effect of chemicals from anti-ethylene, packaging products, vapours preservation and modified atmosphere storage should be performed with this combination to determine their economic effectiveness and standardized fruit shelf-life techniques.

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