# Project Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Improving Profitability of the Mango Value Chain through Strategies for off-season Flower Induction, Proper Harvest Scheduling and Appropriate Postharvest Handling Practices and Technologies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
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### Purpose
The overall objective of this study is to increase profitability of mango production and processing enterprises through off-season flower induction technologies, reliable maturity indices and applicable postharvest technologies.

### Project Summary
In Kenya, fruit set in mango is a seasonal phenomenon leading to periods of glut and scarcity. Owing to high perishability, there are high postharvest losses during the glut period as farmers do not use applicable postharvest technologies to extend the shelf life of the fruits. Unreliable maturity indices further aggravate the losses as fruits harvested at immature and over mature stages are lost. This project seeks to evaluate technologies for off-season flower induction (Potassium Nitrate and Ethephon) for two commercial mango varieties in Kenya, ‘Tommy Atkins’ and ‘Ngowe’. The project will also generate a reliable maturity indices’ matrix from physiological, physicochemical and computational (phenological) indices and validate applicable postharvest technologies (1-Methylcyclopropene and active bag packaging) for extension of the postharvest shelf life of the fruits.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country and Specific Location(s)</th>
<th>Kenya: Kilifi and Embu districts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participating Institutions</td>
<td>University of Nairobi</td>
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<td>National Horticultural Research Centre (NHRC) – Kenya Agricultural Research Institute</td>
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<td>Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture &amp; Technology</td>
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<td>Kenya Agricultural Research Institute</td>
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<td>Start Date</td>
<td>July 2012</td>
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<td>End date</td>
<td>August 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of Funding</td>
<td>59,535 USD</td>
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