

# Postharvest Sample Questions

## Sample Questions - Postharvest Deterioration & Losses

As a postharvest biologist, what do you consider your number one goal and why?

What is the most important difference between fresh and processed (e.g. dried, salted, canned) horticultural commodities in terms of postharvest handling?

What historical movement(s)/event(s) really drove the need for improved postharvest handling practices?

Why are grain (cereals) crops less difficult to handle postharvest than perishable horticultural commodities?

Even if the commodity itself does not become unmarketable due to improper postharvest handling, what other negative impacts might such handling have on the commodity?

What is the most important environmental factor determining shelf life? Why is it so important?