

## Protected Cultivation of Capsicum

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### Abstract

Capsicum (Bell Pepper or Sweet Pepper), also in India commonly referred to as Shimla mirch, is a well-known vegetable grown both in open and protected conditions. Due to its commercial significance as a valuable vegetable crop both in overseas markets and domestic, increased consumer fondness and the use of capsicum in different recipes, quality capsicum production is a requirement of the day. This has led to the cultivation of bell-pepper under controlled conditions, to meet market demand, prompting this crop to become popular as an enterprise in peri-urban and urban areas. Today, the crop has become a prosperous and successful enterprise for marginal and small farmers, once the domain of only the wealthy and elite farmers. Of late, the capsicum production under protected conditions under net / poly houses has faced many crop and production safety issues due to the emerging challenges such as the emergence of new pests, soil-borne diseases, micro nutrient deficiencies, etc., and the marketability problem is also faced by an un-organized sector of this crop. By following appropriate post-harvest management practices, the yield and quality of capsicum can be increased.

**Keywords:** Capsicum, protected condition, cultivation technology, harvest and post-harvest management

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### 1. Introduction

Protected cultivation is adopted by progressive farmers for assured and quality production of crops. Presently, progressive farmers are adopting commercial protected cultivation of high value vegetables and flowers (Maitra *et al.* 2020). Capsicum is one among the common *Solanaceous* fruit vegetables cultivated throughout India, also known as bell pepper, Shimla Mirch or sweet pepper. It is a cool season crop,