

PRACTICE ABSTRACT n° 16

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Smart fruit harvester

A need was identified to develop a fruit picker due to the fact that many fruits are damaged during hand picking from tall trees. The lack of a fruit picker therefore contributes to substantial post-harvest losses. The current harvesting methods are also dangerous and cause drudgery since the workers have to climb trees to reach the fruits. The fruit picker was developed for individual fruit picking staff to improve their efficiency, safety and productivity.

The fruit picker consists of a long extensible chrome pole that is able to reach up to 6m height. At the top of the pole are finger to detach the fruit which enters a flexible chute that carries the fruit to a backpack carried by the fruit picking staff.

