

A Machine for Sorting Nutmegs

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Abstract: *Nutmegs (myristica fragrans), a leading export crop of Grenada are processed by many tedious, manual methods. In this paper, a system for the mechanical cracking of nutmeg seeds has also been proposed. In this system, sorting of seeds into various size ranges is a pre-requisite to mechanical cracking. This paper describes the essential functional features of a machine which was designed and fabricated to sort nutmeg seeds into desirable seed sizes. Seeds are fed from a hopper and are passed between a pair of counter-rotating, inclined cylindrical rollers. When the seed diameter is equal to the clearance between the rollers, seeds can no longer be supported by the rollers, and are separated out.*

Keywords: *Nutmegs seeds, manual methods, mechanical cracking, machine*