

Mango Heat Sum Instructions

Chelsea Moore

The Heat Sums Calculator is a tool for predicting fruit maturity, as defined as a dry matter of 14%, from flowering data. It can be used to effectively organise resources (such as transport and harvest labour) to avoid bottlenecks; for planning and marketing purposes.

The heat sum formula adds the daily average temperatures until a pivotal heat unit is reached. Forecasts are based on historical average temperatures, different varieties have slightly different heat units. The calculation is as follows:

$$[(\text{max temp} + \text{min temp})/2] - 12$$

The different mango varieties have slightly different heat units as follows:

Variety	Heat Units from stage 6
KP	1600
R2E2	1800
Florida types	1680

Kensington Pride (KP) and R2E2 growers should count the flowers at stage 6 of panicle emergence (the first time the bud can be seen). Some growers prefer to use stage 14 (about 2/3 open), however this requires approximately 300 less heat units.



Stage 6



Stage 14

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY, AND FISHERIES
Plant Industries Division

GPO Box 3000 Darwin NT 0801 Tel: 08 8999 2357 Fax: 08 8999 2049 Email: horticulture@nt.gov.au Web: www.horticulture.nt.gov.au

Disclaimer:

While all reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the information contained in this publication is correct, the information covered is subject to change. The Northern Territory Government does not assume and hereby disclaims any express or implied liability whatsoever to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions, whether these errors or omissions result from negligence, accident or any other cause.