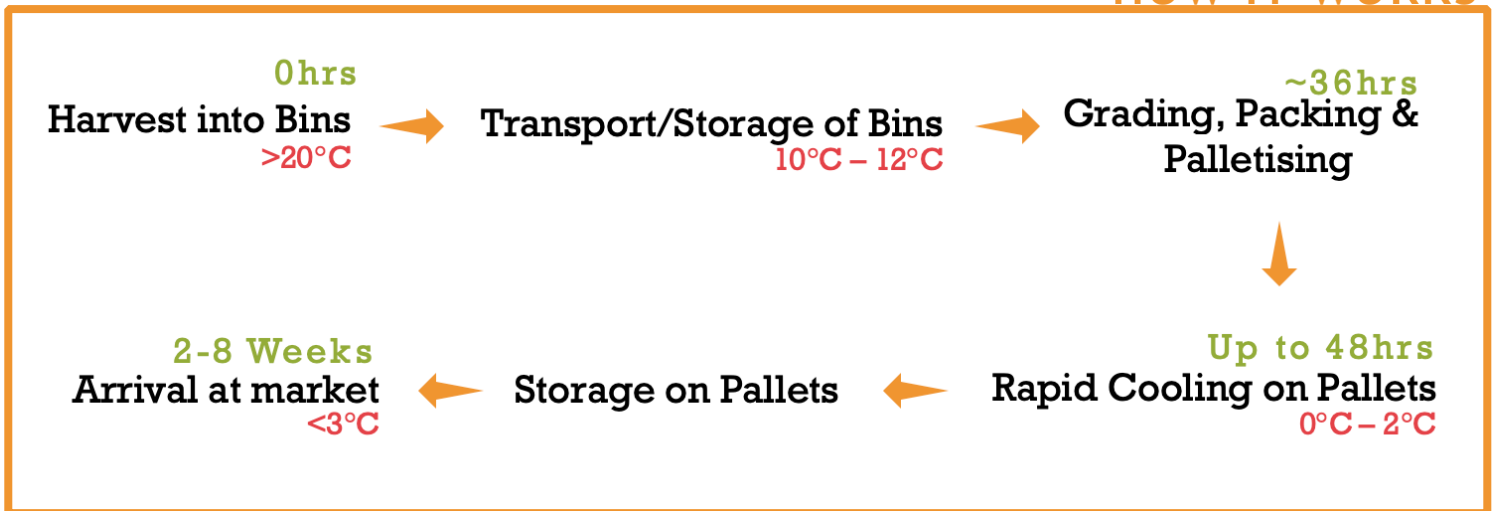


Supply Chain Success: Stepwise Cooling

“ACCLIMATISE” YOUR FRUIT

An alternative method to rapid cooling your fruit after harvest. It is now recommended to bring down the internal temperature of your fruit in a two-step process over 48 hours.

HOW IT WORKS



BENEFITS

- Likely reduction of susceptibility to storage disorders - such as browning and softening - after long-term storage or sea freight export
- Reduces the time fruit spends in the ‘kill zone’ (3-8°C) due multiple cooling and warming periods. This improves fruit quality after storage
- Potential reduction in refrigeration energy during process due to lower peak refrigeration requirements

CONSIDERATIONS

- Stepwise cooling is recommended immediately after harvest, as a part of the packing process
- Ideally rapid cooling (moving from 12°C to 2°C) will happen after packing to maximise benefits but can be done in bins if required
- ‘First in, first out’ approach should be used to ensure preconditioning doesn’t last more than 48 hours

For further information visit the Horticulture Industry Networks site: <https://hin.com.au/networks/profitable-stonefruit-research>

Disclaimer: This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria, its employees and Summerfruit Australia do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication. While every effort has been made to ensure the currency, accuracy or completeness of the content we endeavour to keep the content relevant and up to date and reserve the right to make changes as require. The Victorian Government, authors and presenters do not accept any liability to any person for the information (or the use of the information) which is provided.

The Supply Chains Project is funded by the Hort Frontiers Fund with co-investment from Agriculture Victoria, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Queensland (DAFQ) and contributions from the Australian Government