Post Harvest Handling
Mangoes should be harvested when they start ripening. To prevent the fruits from rotting they should be treated with warm water (52°C) for five minutes (temperature where a candle starts melting. Candle method). This will allow them to stay for at least 21 days during transit and marketing.

Recommendations
We recommend the following.
• **Use of grafted varieties** - some are tolerant to pests and easier to work with unlike the local mango cultivars.
• **Pruning** - allows opening up of the tree canopy and ease of spray
Orchard sanitation.
• Encourage farmers to buy motorized sprayers in groups
• Monitoring weevil infestation by pheromone traps

CONTROL OF WEEVIL AND ANTHRACNOSE DISEASE IN MANGOES IN KERIO VALLEY

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Introduction
Mango weevil

- Mango seed weevil (MSW) *Sternochetus mangiferae* (F) is a pest of mango and is native to Indo-Myanmar but is also widespread in Kenya.
- Damage is caused by the larvae
- Early attack leads to premature fruit drop.
- Fruits still on the trees do not show visible external symptoms
- Reduces germination capacity of seeds
- Results in fruit loss due to rotting
- Direct losses can be as high as 80%
- This weevil is regarded as a quarantine pest

Anthracnose Disease
It is caused by fungi. The disease attack all tender parts of the tree and is especially severe on flowers, young fruits and leaves.

Symptoms: It appears as small black spots on stems, leaves and flower stalks. Causes fruit drop and fruit rot.

Control
The spray regime to control the weevil and anthracnose involves spraying Duduthrin and Ridomil just before flowering, until the fruits are about 1 cm in diameter. Banding using Dursban around the tree trunk keeps adult weevils from crawling up the tree to lay eggs on the emerging fruits.