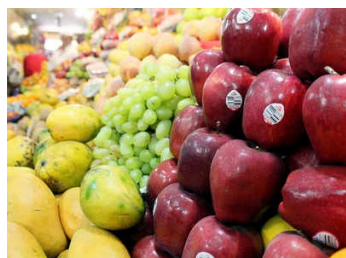


## Artificially ripened fruits destroyed

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AHMEDABAD: With the summer setting-in, the consumption of milkshakes and smoothies is bound to go up. As a precautionary measure, the flying squad of the health department of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), on Monday, conducted random checks on commercial establishments selling fruits.

AMC flying squad officials destroyed 130kg stock of artificially ripened fruits that were unfit for human consumption.

That apart, civic authorities also seized a stock of some 400 sachets of ethylene which is used for artificially ripening various fruits, especially mangoes. According to the guidelines issued by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Act, ethylene cannot be used for artificially ripening fruits.

Civic authorities raided some 15 commercial establishments in Shahibaug, Sarkhej, Bodakdev, Nikol, Behrampura, Saraspur, Gota and Naranpura areas of Ahmedabad, among others. Samples of suspicious food items were collected from 10 establishments, said a senior AMC health official.