1 Characterization of bioactive and fruit quality compounds of promising

- 2 mango genotypes grown in Himalayan plain region
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ABSTRACT

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A study was conducted to examine the Twenty mango genotypes grown in the plains of the Himalayas were characterised in their physical, physiological, biochemical, mineral, and organoleptic attributes of 20 mango genotypes grown in the plains of the Himalayas. Various physical attributes such as: fruit firmness, weight, peel thickness, shape, and dry seed weight were measured, along with physiological attributes such as, respiration rate, weight loss, and shelf life. Biochemical attributes were also analyzed, including such as soluble solids content, total carotenoids, total phenolic content, antioxidant activity, titratable acidity, ascorbic acid, and total sugars were also determined. In addition, mineral content and fruit-softening enzymes were measured, and an organoleptic evaluation was performed. PG, PME, and LOX were estimated using mango fruit pulp taken measured from the pulp adjacent to the peel. Similarly, biochemical attributes and mineral content were evaluated using fruit pulp, while organoleptic evaluation included both fruit pulp characters and the fruit's external appearance of fruit. The results of the study showed that the 'Malda' genotype exhibited the highest total phenolic content (560.60 µg/100g), total antioxidant (5.79 µmol TE/g), and titratable acidity (0.37 %) among the tested genotypes. 'Amrapali' had the highest soluble solid content (25.20 °B), 'Jawahar' had the highest ascorbic acid content (44.20 mg/100g pulp), 'Mallika' had the highest total flavonoid content (700.00 µg/g) and 'Amrapali' had the highest total carotenoid content (9.10 mg/100g). Moreover, the genotypes 'Malda', 'Safed Malda', Malda,' and 'Suvarnarekha' had a shelf life of 4-5 days longer than other tested genotypes. The genotypes with high biochemical attributes have practical utility for researchers for quality improvement programmes and processing industries as functional ingredients in industrial products. This study provides valuable information on the nutritional and functional properties of different mango genotypes, which can aid in developing improved varieties with enhanced health benefits and greater practical utility for researchers and processing industries.

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KEYWORDS

48 Mango; Genotypes; Himalayas; Nutritional; Organoleptic; Bioactive

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Introduction

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The mango is an immensely popular a trendy tropical fruit known for its delightful flavour, sweet taste, and vibrant colour. It is also highly regarded for its nutritional value, as it contains an array of minerals, vitamins, sugars, and fibre, along with various phytochemicals, such as polyphenols, which provide numerous health benefits (Dars et al., 2019; Hu et al., 2021; Parvin et al., 2023 Mango has been cultivated for over 4000 years, and all varieties are traced back to India and Southeast Asia are considered its center of origin. In India, all cultivable mangoes belong to the species Mangifera indica L., although other species, such as Mangifera odorata, M. foetida, and M. caesia can also be found (Aung, 2019). Polyphenols are organic micronutrients found in plants that are known to have unique health benefits. Mango is an excellent source of polyphenols, including mangiferin, gallic acid, gallotannins, quercetin, isoquercetin, ellagic acid, and β-glucogallin, with gallic acid being the most prevalent in the mango mesocarp (Singh et al., 2022). Mango is consumed in both fresh and processed forms, and both forms provide numerous health benefits. From Mango has many uses, from promoting digestion to improving skin health, mange has a wide range of uses (Prasad et al., 2018; Singh et al., 2022). Overall, mango Mango is a highly nutritious fruit that has earned its place as one of the most economically significant fruits with a substantial market globally.

The presence of bioactive compounds in fruits is an importantessential indicator of fruit quality and consumption patterns. The majorprimary polyphenols in mango are catechins, mangiferin, kaempferol, quercetin, rhamnetin, anthocyanins, ellagic acids and gallic, propyl and methyl gallate, benzoic acid, and protocatechieprotocatechuic acid. These compounds benefits offer numerous preventative health (antioxidative, anticarcinogenic, antiatherosclerotic, antimutagenic, anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antidiabetic immunomodulator) and can protect against cardiovascular diseases (Masibo and Qian, 2008; Hu et al., 2021). The Mango contains a combination of polyphenols and xanthoses in mango is an antioxidantxanthones that can help protectact as antioxidants, protecting against severalvarious ailments (Berardini et al., 2005). Mango is known to have comparatively high levels), and it has a higher level of carotenoids, particularly β-carotene, compared to than other fruits. These compounds largelybroadly define the nutritive value of mango fruit, and it is possible to increase their levels through proper treatment or processing techniques after postharvest treatments (Hu et al., 2021). The bioactive compounds in mango make it an excellent fruit for promoting overall health and preventing various diseases. Its high carotenoids and other beneficial compounds make it an important addition to when included in a healthy diet.

Mango fruits that are grown in the <u>Himalayas'</u> plain region of the <u>Himalayas</u> are believed to be particularly rich in phytochemical contents and compounds that promote good health (Prasad et al., 2020; Neetu, 2022). However, genotype-specific profiling of bioactive compounds in these mangoes has not beenyet to be explored extensively. To fill this knowledge gap, the present study aims to characterizecharacterise the bioactive compounds in selected commercial mango genotypes grown in the Himalayan plain region. Through this investigation, we hope to gain a deeper understanding of the health-promoting properties of these mangoes and their potential as a source of bioactive compounds.

Materials and Methods

Sampling and estimation

About 20Twenty commercial mango genotypes viz., 'Alphonso', 'Amrapali', 'Bombai', 'Chausa', 'Dashehari', 'Gulab Khas', 'Himsagar', 'Jawahar', 'Krishna Bhog', 'Langra', 'Mahmood Bahar', 'Malda', 'Mallika', 'Prabha Sankar', 'Ratna', 'Safed Malda', 'Suvarnarekha', 'Totapuri', 'Zardalu', and 'Fazli' were obtained from university mango orehard (Pusa, Dholi and adjoining area), RPCAU (Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central agricultural university/Agricultural University), Bihar. The fruits were harvested under dry weather from May-August, the day free from rainfall. After harvesting, fruits were de-sapped and precooled immediately with hydrocoolinghydro cooling to bring the temperature to a uniform level for all varieties. Fruits were stored for ripening under ambient storage conditions (25 ± 4 °C and 65 ± 5 % RH) for 15 days. However, the shelf life of mango genotypes (all genotypes) was completed at and within 12th of storage. The genotypes were investigated for physical, physiological, biochemical, mineral contents, organoleptic evaluation, and fruit-softening enzymes. The parameters, irrespective of their sections, were determined at the peak ripening stage. The experiment was conducted over a period of two years, specifically in 2020 and 2022. The data presented in the study represents the average value obtained from both years.

Determination of physical attributes

The weight of An electronic balance recorded the fruit and dry seed weight was recorded in grams (g) using an electronic balance.). The thickness of the fruit peel was recorded in mm using a vernier ealiper. The fruitcalliper. Mango fruits' morphology (shape) of mango fruits

- was determined using International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) mango
- descriptors. A texture analyzer (model: analyser (TA-XT Plus) was used to determine the fruit
- firmness, and it was expressed as 'N' (Newton).

Estimation of biochemical attributes

118 Soluble solid contents (SSC) and total sugars

- 119 SSC Using a hand refractometer (0–50 °B) was estimated and depicted as Brix° under ambient
- storage. Lane and Eynon's method, described by Ranganna (1986), was used to determine the
- total sugars.

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122 Titrable acidity (TA)

- The procedure followed by Singh et al. (2022) determined the TA of mango genotypes. TA
- was determined by titrating against 0.1 N NaOH using a few drops of phenolphthalein
- indicator, which became pink and was depicted as equivalent of citric acid.

126 Total carotenoid contents (TCC)

- TCC was determined as per the procedure followed by Prasad et al. (2020). In 30 ml acetone,
- 128 10 g of pulp was homogenizedhomogenised until the pigment was removed
- 129 <u>completely entirely</u>. The golden pigment was obtained by filling a <u>homogenized homogenised</u>
- solution in a separating funnel and washing it with petroleum ether and a pinch of sodium
- sulfate. For pigment separation shaken funnel was left without any disturbance. After the
- 132 coloured pigment separation solution was transferred into the volumetric flask.
- Spectrophotometer was used to record the absorbance at 452 nm, and a blank was prepared
- using petroleum ether. Against standard curve reading was plotted and displayed as 'mg
- 135 $100 \text{ g}^{-1} \text{ FW}'$.

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Ascorbic acid (AA) and antioxidant (AOX) activity

- 137 AA was determined according to the procedure followed by Singh et al. (2022). It was
- examined using a 2,6-Dichlorophenol indophenol titration method. The Antioxidant (AOX)
- activity of mango genotypes was estimated using DPPH (2,2-Diphenylpicrylhydrazyl) method
- followed by Lu et al. (2014). After thoroughly mixing 0.1 mL extract with 3.9 mL of a 0.06
- 141 mM DPPH solution mixture was left for thirty minutes in the dark and absorbed the absorbance
- at 517 nm. The AOX activity was expressed as 'umol Trolox equivalent /g'.

Total phenolic content (TPC)

Methodology with some modification followed by Prasad et al. (2022b) was used to estimate 144 the TPC. Double-distilled water (2.5 mL) in a test tube was used to dilute the (0.5 mL) pulp 145 and then incubated for 3 min after adding 0.5 mL Folin-Ciocalteu reagent. Following 146 147 incubation, 2 mL of 20% (w/v₁), Na₂CO₃ was added to the sample tube and kept for 1 minute for boiling in a water bath. At 650 nm, absorbance was recorded while gallic acid anhydrous 148 standard solutions at concentrations ranging from 10 to 100 mg/L were used to construct a five-149 point analytical curve. The curves demonstrated satisfactory linearity within the absorbance at 150 each concentration ($R^2 = 0.999$). TPC werewas displayed as ' μ g GAE/g FW'. 151

Total flavonoid contents (TFC)

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153 The TFC was determined per the methodology Zhisen et al. (1999) described using 154 aluminum aluminium chloride. An extract aliquot of 0.1 ml was taken in 10 ml of a volumetric flask containing 4 ml of distilled water, 0.3 ml of 5 % NaNO2 and 0.3 ml of 10 % AlCl₃. 6H₂O. 155 At room temperature mixture was left to stand for 6 minutes. After adding 2 ml of 1M NaOH, 156 the solution was diluted up to 10 ml using distilled water. The mixture was mixed using a 157 vortex. The absorbance was recorded immediately at 510 nm in a spectrophotometer (Model: 158 IGENE LABSERVE, IG 94UV, India). Catechin hydrate standard curve at concentrations 159 between 50 and 300 mg/L was used to calculate the calibration curve (R²=0.999). TFC was 160

Determination of minerals

expressed as 'µg/100 g FW'.

Mango fruit samples were digested with di acids (nitric acid and perchloric acid) in ultrapure water acquired from the (Mili Q system (Milipore, Millipore, France) to estimate the mineral content. The Mili Q system was utilized for further dilution and digest digested the samples. The phosphorous reading was recorded in a Spectrophotometer (IGENE

The minerals were determined according to the methodology followed by Drozdz et al. (2018).

- samples. The phosphorous reading was recorded in a spectrophotometer (IGENE
- 168 LABSERVE) and a). A Flame photometer (model no. SP-V325) was used for the minerals
- such as calcium and potassium, and it was expressed as 'mg/kg'.

Physiological attributes

The procedure followed by Prasad et al. (2022b) was used for the determination of respiration rate and for this purpose autowas measured with an automated gas analyzeranalyser (Model PBI Densor) was used.), as described by Prasad et al. (2022b). High-precision electronic balance was used for the determination of the PLW of fruits. On the basis of PLW, Fruits that

- exhibited more than 10 percent PLW loss were deemed to have a shelf life completed (Prasad et al., 2022a).

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Organoleptic evaluation

- Mango genotypes were evaluated for the organoleptic parameter using 'panel method' and
- hedonic scale (Prasad et al., 2018). Mango fruit with superior flavour, texture and colour
- displayed high-level consumer liking (Prasad et al., 2022a).
- 181 Determination of fruit softening enzymes
- Polygalactouronase (PG), pectin methylesterase (PME) and Lipoxygenase (LOX) enzyme
- activity waswere determined according to the procedure followed by Prasad et al. (2022a) with
- 184 slight modification.
- 185 Statistical analysis
- The investigation was conducted in CRD (completely randomized randomised design) with 3
- 187 replicationsthree replicates. Using one-way analysis of variance analysis of all parameters data
- was done between different mango genotypes using SAS software. Results Comparison was
- donemade by calculating Critical difference and DMRT (Duncan's multiple range test) at a 5%
- level of significance <u>level</u>. In the column, the data were expressed as mean \pm standard deviation.

Results and Discussion

Physical attributes

system for grading, transport, processing, and packaging (Prasad et al., 2022b). Fruit 195 appearance, which is influenced by colorcolour, size, and shape, is one of the consumers' first 196 and most important factors for consumers when purchasing (Kumar et al., 2018). Therefore, 197 various physical characteristics were recorded in different mango genotypes. Our finding 198 199 displayed that there were significant variations in the weight of the mango. The highest fruit weight was observed in 'Fazli' (404.67g), while the lowest fruit weight was observed in 200 201 'Gulabkhas' (121.57g). The peel thickness of mango genotypes was also significant, which 202 was the highest in 'Fazli' (1.85 mm) and the lowest in 'Chausa' (0.62 mm). Similar differences were observed in the seed weight value, which was found to be the highest in 'Fazli' (27.23 g) 203 204 while the lowest was found in 'Dashehari' (11.97 g). One of the most crucial quality traits of

The physical characteristics of horticultural produce play a significant role in designing the

any fruit which determines consumer appeal is fruit firmness, and it was observed the highest

in 'Mahmood Bahar' (9.37 N) while the lowest was observed in 'Himsagar' (4.13 N). Different fruit shape was observed in different selected mango genotypes (Table 1). The genotypes with higher peel thickness and firmness exhibited higher shelf life. The variations in fruit weight, peel thickness, fruit firmness, seed weight and fruit morphology might be due to genetic differences of genotypes. Bora et al. (2017) and Totad et al. (2020) reported similar variations in the physical characteristics of different mango genotypes served as the basis of this investigation. The difference in physical features is also investigated by Gentile et al. (2018).

Biochemical attributes

Soluble solid content (SSC), total sugars and titratable acidity (TA)

In addition to being the primary ingredients in sweet and sour flavours, SSC and TA are also essential indicators of fruit maturity and postharvest fruit flavour assessment during storage (Zhao et al., 2021). SSC in fruits is a crucial quality characteristic linked to the composition and texture (Hossain et al., 2014; Prasad et., 2022a). Our findings displayed that the SSC was reported the highest in 'Amrapali' (25.20 °B) whereas the lowest SSC was reported in Totapuri (16.20 °B). The total sugars were observed maximum in 'Mallika' (20.12 %)%), while the lowest was observed in Zardalu (14.37 %). FruitsFruits' overall taste is governed byrelated to titratable acidity. Our findings revealed that the titratable acidity was found the highest in 'Malda' (0.37 %) while the lowest was found in 'Himsagar' (0.12 %) (Table 2a). It has been reported that the relation relationship between SSC and TA is critical for determining the consumer acceptability of many fruits. Our results were in accordance with the findings of per Samal et al. (2012) and Singh et al. (2022), who have reported considerable differences in titratable acidity, soluble solid contents and total sugars among mango genotypes.

Ascorbic acid (AA), antioxidant (AOX) activity and total carotenoid

AA is a crucial quality characteristic of fruits and is particularly valued for its antioxidant properties & AOX protects <u>against</u> the occurrence of oxidative stress (Prasad et al., 2016; Prasad et al., 2022b). The ascorbic acid was observed the highest in 'Jawahar' (44.20 mg/100g pulp)), whereas, the lowest was observed in 'Ratna' (14.50 mg/100g pulp) (Table 2b). A <u>significantSignificant</u> differences in AOX activity existed between the studied mango genotypes, and it was found <u>to be</u> the highest in 'Malda' (5.79 µmol TE/g) while the lowest in 'Totapuri' (2.54 µmol TE/g) (Table 2b). Carotenoids in mango contributed to antioxidant properties. The mango genotypes varied in total carotenoid contents, and it was reported the highest TCC in 'Amrapali' (9.10 mg/100g) and the lowest in 'Langra' (5.50 mg/100g) (Table

- 238 2b). The genotypes rich in these biochemical compounds are highly preferred by consumers.
- The higher antioxidant value of genotypes might be due to higher levels of total phenol,
- 240 ascorbic acid and total carotenoid content. This study got evidence from the results of Gentile
- et al. (2018) and Lu et. (2014), who reported variations in biochemical attributes in selected
- 242 mango cultivars.

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Total phenolic contents and total flavonoid contents

- Dietary antioxidants which is derived from the phenolic chemicals, phenolics lower the risk of
- various chronic disorders diseases (Jayarajan et al., 2019). Flavour (different shades of flavour)
- and antioxidant activity of fruits are attributed to flavonoids. The concentration of phenol
- 247 varied considerably phenolics is variable among the different mango genotypes. The total
- 248 phenol content in mango genotypes was registered, being the highest in 'Malda' (560.60
- 249 $\mu g/100g$) while the lowest was registered in 'Totapuri' (297.50 $\mu g/100g$). The highest TFC
- were observed in Mallika (700.00 $\mu g/g$), whereas, the lowest TFC was observed in 'Himsagar'
- 251 (355.00 μg/g) (Table 2b). The genotypes rich in with a high TPC and TFC are considered to
- have high fruit quality and have higher neutraceutical nutraceutical value (Rastegar et al., 2019).
- Such differences between TCC and TFC also have been reported by Totad et al. (2020) in
- 254 blueberries blueberry varieties grown in the northern-western Himalayas.

Physiological attributes

- 256 The attributes such as respiration rate (ml CO₂ kg⁻¹ h⁻¹), physiological loss in weight (PLW)
- 257 (%) and shelf life (days) differed significantly among selected mango genotypes. A crucial
- factor affecting a fruit's shelf life is respiration rate (Jhalegar et al., 2014). The maximum
- respiration rate among mango genotypes was reported in 'Chausa' (137.19 ml CO₂ kg⁻¹ h⁻¹)).
- while the lowest was observed in 'Safed Malda' (95.44 77 ml CO₂ kg⁻¹ h⁻¹). PLW is assessed
- by moisture loss from the fruit due to transpiration or respiration, which is governed by fruit
- peel thickness or environmental factor factors. The highest PLW was observed in 'Totapuri'
- 263 (13.00 %)%), whereas, the lowest PLW was observed in 'Amrapali' (6.20 %). The highest
- shelf life was observed in 'Malda', 'Safed Malda' and 'Suvarnarekha' (11-12 days) (Table 3).
- The genotypes exhibited higher respiration rates, and PLW hashad a lower shelf life. A similar
- study investigated in kiwi genotypes (Sharma et al., 2015) and mango (Prasad et al., 2022a).

Organoleptic evaluation

- 268 Significant differences were observed for organoleptic evaluation among selected genotypes
- of mango. The highest organoleptic score was reported in 'Amrapali' (9.0) while the lowest

- was observed in 'Prabha Sankar' (7.0). In mango genotypes, the The greater sensory score is in
- 271 <u>mango genotypes</u> might be due to improved colour, taste, fragrance and flavour (Prasad and
- 272 Sharma, 2018; Prasad et al., 2022b) (Table 2a).

Determination of minerals

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Minerals are necessary for the body's healthy operation, growth and development, and preserving health. Potassium is related to fruit quality, phosphorous stabiles fruit cell wallwalls and calcium is needed to keep cells rigid (Sinha et al., 2017). Considerable variations in majorprimary mineral constitutes constituents among different genotypes of mango were observed. Among the genotypes evaluated, potassium content was reported the highest in 'Bombai' (12.46 mg/kg), whereas, the lowest was observed in 'Mahmood Bahar' (5.60 mg/kg). Apart from potassium, phosphorous contents also showed considerable variation among different mango genotypes, which was observed the highest in 'Malda' (1.77 mg/kg) while). In comparison, the lowest was observed in Langra (0.93 mg/kg). The value of calcium among selected mango genotypes was registered the highest in 'Mahmood Bahar' (0.40 mg/kg) while the lowest was registered in 'Ratna' and 'Himsagar' (0.11 mg/kg) (Table 4). The genotypes with higher mineral contents are considered to be nutritionally rich (Kumar et al., 2018). A similar finding has been investigated by Akin-Idowu et al. (2020) in different fruit and Lu et al. (2014) in pineapple cultivars. Drozdz et al. (2018) and Totad et al. (2020) also have reported such differences in minerals among selected wild and cultivated blueberry genotypes, respectively.

Estimation of fruit softening enzymes

- Fruit softening enzymes such as PG enzyme (μg galactouronic galacturonic acid g-1 h-1 FW),
- 292 PME (μmol g⁻¹ FW min⁻¹) and LOX (μmol g⁻¹ FW min⁻¹) varied significantly among selected
- 293 mango genotypes. PG and PME enzymes are directly associated with fruit ripening, softening
- and textural changes processes and cell wall decomposition, while LOX is associated with
- 295 senescence. The PG enzyme activity was found the highest in 'Himsagar' (36.83 μg
- 296 galactouronic galacturonic acid g⁻¹ h⁻¹ FW) whereas, the lowest was found in 'Jawahar' (31.57
- 297 μg galactouronic galacturonic acid g⁻¹ h⁻¹ FW) (Fig. 1). The PME activity was observed
- maximum in 'Chausa' (0.40 μmol g⁻¹ FW min⁻¹) while the lowest in 'Malda' (0.30 μmol g⁻¹
- FW min⁻¹) (Fig. 2). The LOX activity was registered the highest in 'Chausa' (5.56 μmol g⁻¹
- 300 FW min⁻¹) while). In contrast, the lowest was observed in 'Malda' (3.18 μmol g⁻¹ FW min⁻¹)
- 301 (Fig. 3). This study got the support of Prasad et al. (2020) who observed considerable variations
- 302 for fruit softening enzymes among genotypes of mango.

Correlation Analysis analysis of parameter for quality traits in mango

The correlation analysis of the selected twenty-one different traits in mango genotypes at their peak ripening stage revealed an overall significant positive correlation (one variable increases with the increase in another variable) among the physical attributes of different mango genotypes (Fig. 4). The soluble solids contents, total sugars, titratable acidity, total carotenoid and organoleptic evaluation also showed positive correlations with each other when compared across different mango genotypes at peak ripening stage. Similarly, total phenolic content, total flavonoid, ascorbic acid, and antioxidant acidity, were also found to be positively correlated with each other (Fig. 4). Also, the physiological attributes, such as respiration rate and physiological loss in weight, were also suggested to be positively correlated with each other. This finding reveals that genotypes exhibiting lower respiration raterates and physiological loss in weight exhibit higher shelf life and thus will be available in market for longer duration.. The total phenol content was negatively correlated with PME, PG and LOX activity-While. In contrast, the total carotenoid content was positively correlated with sensory evaluation (Fig. 4). This finding suggests that the better colour development in some genotypes due to carotenoid content is responsible for the higher acceptability of that genotype by consumers. The valuable insights into the correlations between various traits of mango genotypes at the peak ripening stage may aid in selecting and breeding superior mango cultivars with desirable traits and characteristics.

Overall, this study provides valuable insights into the correlations between various traits of mango genotypes at <u>the</u> peak ripening stage. These findings may aid in selecting and breeding superior mango cultivars with desirable traits and characteristics.

327 Conclusion

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The This study has demonstrated that the analyzed mango genotypes exhibitshowed significant variations in terms of their the bioactive and fruit quality compounds of the studied mango genotypes. 'Malda' was found to be superior in terms of total phenolic content (560.60 μ g/100g), total antioxidant (5.79 μ mol TE/g), and titratable acidity (0.37 %). 'Amrapali' had the highest soluble solid content (25.20 °B), 'Jawahar' had the highest ascorbic acid content (44.20 mg/100g pulp), 'Mallika' had the highest total flavonoid content (700.00 μ g/g), and 'Amrapali' had the highest total carotenoid content (9.10 mg/100g). Genotypes such as 'Malda',

335	'Safed Malda', and 'Suvarnarekha' exhibited higher shelf life, indicating their potential for use
336	in processing and storage. The genotypes with higher biochemical content are considered to
337	have high neutraceutical value. The genotypes that exhibited higher TSS and total
338	sugars can be preferred for juice processing, for instance, juice (squash, ready-to-serve etc.).
339	Less sugar is needed to be added externally during product preparation. Overall, the . The
340	superior genotypes that were found to be superior in terms of regarding bioactive and fruit-
341	quality compounds can be recommended for fresh consumption. Additionally, the practical
342	utility of these results extends to the quality improvement program and processing industry,
343	where the findings can be used to improve the quality and value of mango products.
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