



Comprehensive Analysis of Phase Change Materials for Cold Storage

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ABSTRACT: Phase change materials (PCMs) are mainly used for energy in cold storage applications and enhancement potential of releasing and storing heat during phase transformation from solid to liquid respectively. In building construction materials or cold storages, incorporation of PCMs is a booming technology. Lot of problems exists in appropriate selection of PCMs in recent trends due to its high cost and poor thermal conductivity as well as increase in virus infectivity. Paper focuses on comprehensive analysis of various PCMs (i.e. paraffin, polyethylene glycol 400, HS01, OM03, organic mixture and Salt hydrates) used in cold storages for vegetables in India to make them energy efficient.

Keywords: Cold Storage (CS), Phase Change Material (PCM), Latent Heat Thermal Energy Storage Systems (LHTES), HS01, Salt Hydrates and Water.

Highlights:

1. To overview of Phase change material for thermal energy storage
2. To overview and summary of fruits as well as vegetables state wise contribution in cold storage. Author's analysis in cold storages for temperature variations to store fruits, vegetables and ice-cream.
3. To analysis of different phase change material according to their chemical reaction, temperature and latent heat with its applications, types and properties.
4. To find phase change material like HS01, OM03 and water with its technical details to develop new cold storage in upcoming days.
5. To conclude overall summary of research studies, analysis and survey, so new cold storage may be developed for vegetables in Madhya Pradesh.

I. INTRODUCTION

The research furnishes an evaporative strengthen cold storage system over against a hot air stream is cooled and the cooled air stream is subsequently passed into contact with a cold storage unit. Cold chain arrangement is a kind of system, which usually refers to refrigerated and frozen goods such as vegetables, fruits, food, biological or medicine products, in the production, transportation, consumption and sale of each link before, always maintained at the optimal refrigeration temperature, at the same time to maintain quality and reduce loss [1, 2]. The application of phase change material (PCM) maintained inside cold space temperature 1 to 4 °C lower than without PCM in a cold storage facility [2]. In PCMs heat may be stored by using a phase change in the material. PCMs have a larger capacity for storage as compared to water [3].

Food safeties have become more concerns with an increasing population and demand in coming years [4]. PCM has been tested under extremely low , extremely high and alternating temperature transportation situation [4]. The stability of Phase change material for cold storage could improve and of efficiency the building thermal environment [5]. PCMs have received great observation in various applications, mainly, storage thermal energy in latent heat thermal energy storage systems (LHTES) [6,7]. It incorporated phase change material for cold chain insulated container which has temperature controlled transportation for the range of 2 to 8 degree C.

A methodology to measure and predict the thermal behavior of the phase change materials at the sub-zero temperature [8]. A novel solar Phase change material wall technology is used for building in hot summer and cold winter regions [9]. They had used water as a PCM and polyurethane for wall insulation.

The fundamental benefits of thermal energy storage (TES) system are summarized below [13]:

1. Efficiency: use of energy and achieve a better.
2. Environmental effects: minimize pollution, less greenhouse gases (GHGs) emissions.
3. Sustainability: improved performance of system and reliability via incorporation of more renewable energies.
4. Economics: operational and capital costs reduced to save money

II. COLD STORAGE

In June 2020, the Government of India amended the Essential Commodities Act (1955) in an attempt to increase the size and range of buyers available to farmers and also the cold storage sector encourage investments [2]. In December, 2014 National Horticulture Board conducted a survey to estimates the total capacity of cold storage in India at 31.8 million MT [11]. Cold storage is the most remarkable process of the spread of food borne diseases and preventing post harvest food losses globally [12]. Now a day the demand of the fresh fruits and vegetables has increased significantly [16]. In recent work suggests that isometric cold storage has the capacity to eliminate potentially harmful bacteria [17]. Figure 1 shows state wise cold storage capacity per horticulture in lakh tone. In this figure Gujarat play vital role in production but eleven lowest position of Madhya Pradesh for cold storage. In figure 2 describes contribution of cold storages in India.

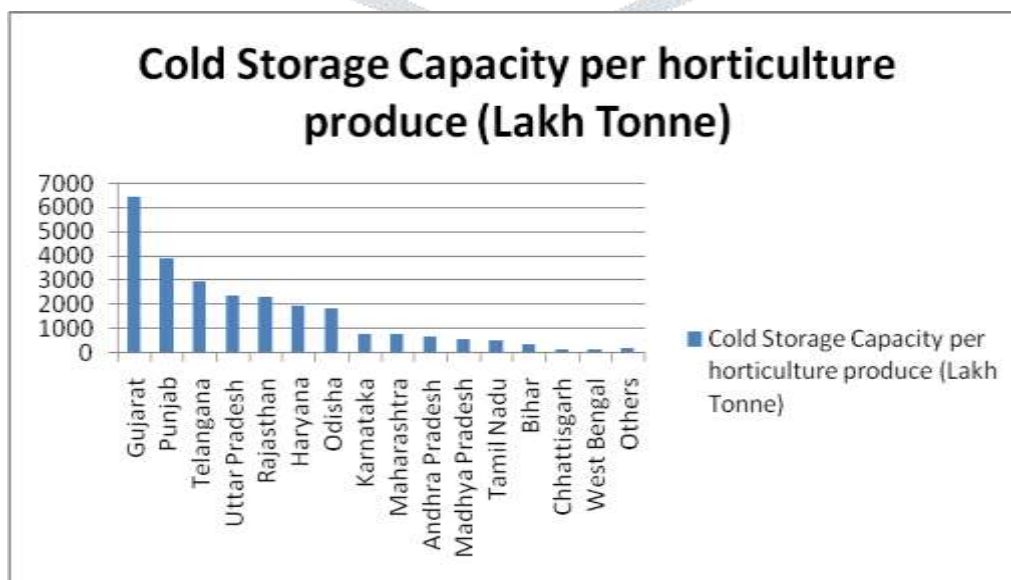


Figure 1: Cold Storage Capacity[14]

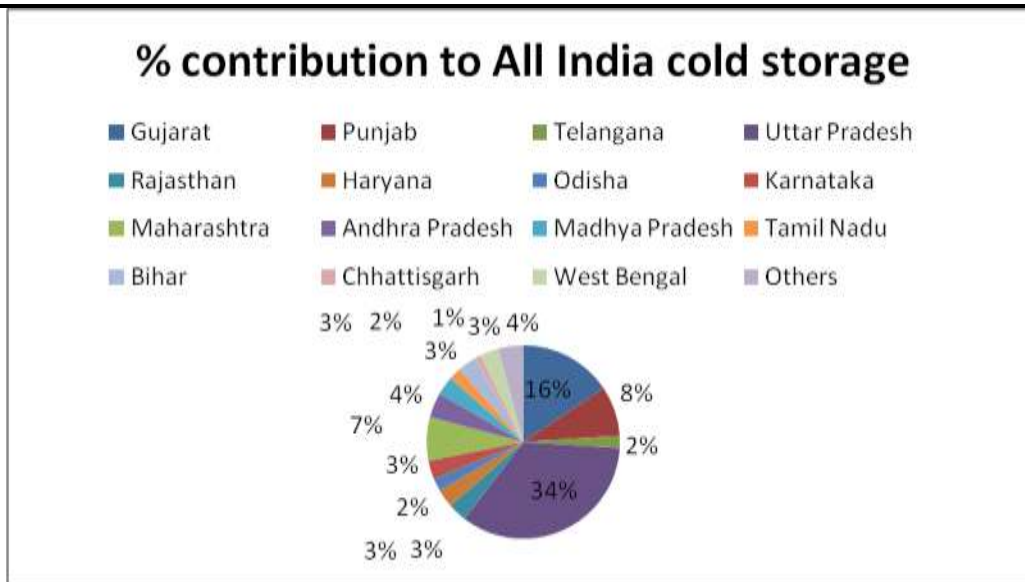


Figure 2: State wise contribution of cold storages capacity[14]

Cold storages of fruits with its temperature range and sensitivity are presented below in table 1. Thermal incompatibility of fruits and its temperature range and temperature range for cold storages are presented in table 1.

Table: 1 Thermal incompatibility of fruits and its temperature range

Sr. No.	Products	Sensitivity	Temperature Range
1	Apple, grape, carrot and onion	not sensitive	0-4°C
2	Mango, orange, potato and tomato	moderately sensitive	4-8°C
3	Pineapple, banana, pumpkin and lady finger	sensitive to cold	>8°C

There is some analysis of cold storage of ice cream, frozen, vegetables and food by researchers. Temperature range will be analyzed therefore selection of phase change materials for cold storage of vegetables will be determined.

Table: 2 Temperature ranges for cold storages

Sr. No.	Author's	Cold Storage	Temperature Range
1.	Donhowe & Hartel[35]	Storage of ice cream	-15 and -5 °C
2.	Phimolsiripol et al[36]	Storage of frozen	-18 and ± 5 °C
3.	Gormley et al[37]	Storage of frozen	-60 and -30 °C
4.	Håkon Selvnes et al[3]	Storage of food	20 and -60 °C
5.	Amit K Jaiswal[38]	Storage of Fruits and Vegetables	2 and 8 °C
6.	Siti Aishah Hadawiah Ahmad et al[39]	Tropical fruits	5-13 °C

There are different categories and applications of cold storages about fruits and vegetables [31]:

- Freezing Fruit & Vegetable
- Cold Storage of Fruit & Vegetable
- Post Harvest Handling of Fruit & Vegetable
- Pre-Cooling & Storage Facilities
- Harvest and Storage of Fruit & Vegetable
- Storage of Home-Grown Vegetable

- Storage Operation of Fruit & Vegetables
- Storing Fresh Vegetable & Fruit
- Fruit and Vegetable Processing
- Tunnel Forced-Air Coolers for Fresh Fruit & Vegetable
- Containers and Packaging Fruit & Vegetable
- Aflatoxin B1 Production in Chilies

The advantages that can be attained from combining diverse nutrition-sensitive market arbitration, and stress the need for policies that narrow the fruit & vegetable cold storage shortage that exist away from more lucrative markets in developing countries [40]. In cold storage thermal energy requirements as per uses of phase change materials enlists following properties like an appropriate operating temperature range, which is depending on the application, low degree of super cooling, Higher energy density, thermal conductivity, corrosion resistance, chemical and physical stability, undamaging, toxic, flammable, or explosive, Small volume change and vapor pressure, Low cost and available in large quantities.

III. PHASE CHANGE MATERIAL

A. T. Waterman submitted the first report of invention about the phase change material in the early 1900s. Phase Change Materials are easier to manage and design than thermo chemical heat storage technology [6]. The decrease of outlet air temperature and heat flux as time passes can be suggested by the enhancement of PCM solid thickness and, then, of the conductive thermal resistance with time [9]. In 1980, PCMs has been integrated in the energy storage system on buildings[10]. PCMs are implemented to minimize heating and cooling loads between the building envelope due to its enormous potential of energy storage during solidification and melting, by that maintaining an acceptable thermal comfort [15-16]. PCM in the refrigerated truck is a reliable process of cold storage because it can have very low melting points and have high latent heat of melting [23]. PCMs can be classified [32, 34] as liquid gas, liquid solid, gas solid and solid-solid also further classified as organic compounds, inorganic compounds and eutectic mixtures. In Eutectics mixtures include organic-organic, inorganic-organic and inorganic- inorganic [41-42]. In heating and cooling PCMs are extensively applied[43-44]. Ice, water and latent heat storage systems are common methods to achieve a cold storage[45-47]. The temperature will change phases of material like the temperature minimize, the material changes phase from liquid to solid and the temperature maximize, the material changes phase from solid to liquid. The PCM preserv its latent heat without any change in physical or chemical belongings over thousands of cycles. A higher value of heat stored offer by PCMs per unit volume (up to 50 kWh/m³), ranging from five to fourteen times additionally to conventional sensible-heat storage materials. Organic PCMs include paraffin's and non-paraffin like fatty acids, esters, glycols and alcohols. Inorganic PCMs hydrated metallic and salts.

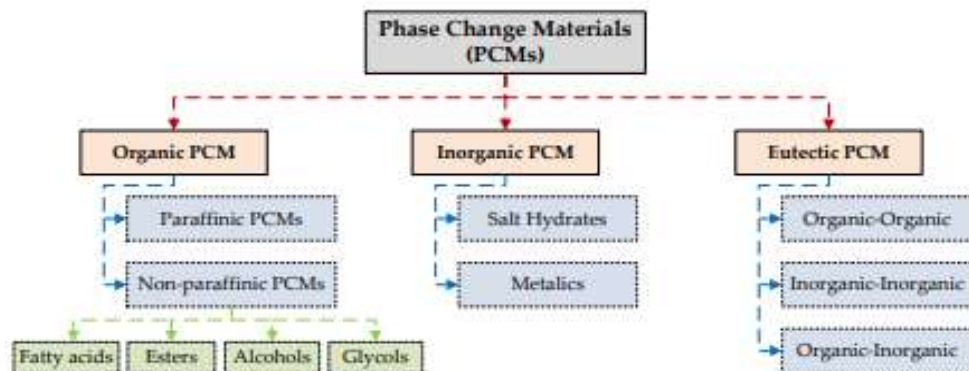


Figure: 3 Types of Phase Change Material [18, 19]

Phase change materials are commonly used in some temperature sensitive such as solar energy applications, peak conformity transfer, bio refrigeration system and domestic hot water tank. The applications of polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG400) PCMs are used for development of cold storage facility to improve its thermal performance. A methodology to measure and predicts the thermal behavior of the phase change materials at the sub-zero temp. Water, propylene glycol ($C_3H_8O_2$), Glycerin ($C_3H_8O_3$), Paraffin oil, sodium and polyacrylate, ($C_3H_3NaO_2$) as a phase change material for cold energy storage system. In inorganic phase change materials (T_m) latent heat [32] and thermal conductivity [33] are two most important selection criteria for PCM. Various PCMs are given in table 3.

Table: 3 Phase change material for cold storage

Sr. No.	Phase Change Material	Chemical Reaction	Temperature $T_m/^\circ\text{C}$	Latent Heat
1	Salt Hydrate[53]	$Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$	25.8	126 kJ/kg
2.	Salt Hydrate[54]	$LiClO_3 \cdot 3 H_2O$	8	253 kJ/kg
3.	Water	H_2O	0	333 kJ/kg
4.	Paraffin[55]	C_nH_{2n+2}	30	150-250 kJ/kg
5.	Paraffin C_{16} - C_{28} [56]	$CH_3-(CH_2)_n-CH_3$	44	189 kJ/kg
6.	Sodium thiosulfate penta hydrate [104]	$Na_2S_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$	48	210 kJ/kg
7.	M550[105]	_____	552	251 kJ/kg
8.	H500[105]	_____	509	260 kJ/kg
9.	HS01[62]	_____	0	350 kJ/kg
10.	OM03[61]	_____	3.5	229 kJ/kg

Paraffin- C_nH_{2n+2} as per availability is one of the wide analyzed phase change material in thermal energy storage [34] application, non-corrosive nature and relatively low-cost. Paraffin is generally consist of straight long chain alkenes, the melting point and the chain length depends upon heat release of paraffin. so advantages with effective from moderate flammability and low thermal conductivity flourished only applicable to small scale and only for low temperature application. Paraffins[55] with temperature between 30°C and 60°C have particular utilization in improving the efficiency for thermal buffering of batteries and electronics latent heat of fusion of paraffin is 150-250 kJ/kg and liquid density is 700 - 850 kg/m³[8]. Researchers and academicians determine paraffin has a melting temperature from -12 to 71°C with a latent heat of 128–198 kJ/kg.

The paraffin as PCM but tends to have indigent thermal conductivity. This may be improved by produces a high surface area like microencapsulation. To maximize performance of PCM, the thermal heat transfer require to compare with the flow of heat to it. In the case of heat transfer systems, where in fluids are used in slurris of PCM, the thermal conductivity of fluid domination the system performance in releasing it for heat output and absorbing at the point of heat input in thermal kinetic energy .

Polyethylene glycol 400 (PEG400)- is the wide studied phase change material for cold storage facility, the temperature ranges of 3°C to 6°C [2]. Melting latent heats of neat PEG400 in the range from 105.3 to 117.3 J·g⁻¹ are normally reported for Polyethylene glycol 400. PEGs with several average molecular weights were first melt at 50 – 70°C .

The merits of salt hydrates are high alloy latent temperature, proportionate high thermal conductivity, and small volume changes in melting. HS01 is salt hydrate type phase change material. Melting point of Water as well as HS01 PCM-HS01P is 0 °C (32 °F). HS01 is salt hydrate type PCM its latent heat is 290 J/g. Specific heat, liquid 3.60 J/(g·°C). The HS01/I are chemical based an inorganic PCM having nominal freezing temperature of 10 °C. Thermal energy of HS01 as latent heat in their crystalline form. While changing phase this latent heat is absorbed or released, empowering in maintaining the ambient temperature. Ternary salt-water solution is used as phase change material to facilitate the frozen food cold storage and transportation.

PCM microcapsules enlarge the application of the PCMs, due to properties of PCM chemical and thermal stabilization, suitable solid-to-liquid phase transition, and higher amount of energetic changes.

Salt hydrates provides thermo chemical storage of heat in compact and efficient way to store solar energy. The merits of the salt hydrates find the storage capacity, cost and operating conditions of the thermo chemical storage system. The reversible reaction of hydration and/or dehydration of a salt hydrate is shown in Eq. 1.



IV. APPLICATIONS AND PROPERTIES OF PCM

PCMs are used for following applications

- To improve thermal stability in the time of power loss in cold storage [13]
- In building efficiency field[48]
- In Solar Water Heating Systems[49]
- In Heat Management in Photovoltaics[50]
- To store heat in Hybrid and Electric Vehicles [51]
- The solar power plants and solar cooling [78]
- To waste heat recovery systems[79]
- To solar dryers in agricultural industry[80]
- To preservation of food and pharmaceutical products [81]

Various PCMs used in cold storages, presented in table 4.

Table: 4 Phase change materials for cold storage

Sr. No.	Property of Material	Paraffin Wax	Hydrate Salt	Non-Paraffin Organics	Metallic's	Water
1.	Heat of Fusion[92,93]	High	High	High	Medium	333.5 Joule/gram
2.	Thermal Conductivity[95]	Very Low	High	Low	Very High	0.598 W/m·K
3.	Melting Temperature[96]	-20 to 100+ °C	0 to 100+ °C	5 to 120+°C	150 to 800+°C	0 °C
4.	Latent Heat (kJ/kg)[97]	200 to 280	60 to 300	90 to 250	25 to 100	2,260 kJ/kg
5.	Corrosive[98]	Non-Corrosive	Corrosive	Mildly Corrosive	Varies	Corrosive
6.	Economics	Rs. 100 Approx.	Rs. 10 Approx.	Rs. 1000 Approx.	Rs. 10 to 100 Approx.	Rs. 1 to 10 Approx.
7.	Thermal Cycling[99]	stable	Unstable over repeated	Elevated Temperature Can Cause Decomposition	Stable	Stable
8.	Weight	Medium	Light	Medium	Heavy	Medium

V. IMPORTANT FINDINGS

There are some important findings pointed out after critical analysis of various researches, author's view, and data sheet of different phase change materials for cold storages. Research papers of different journals, reports, chapters as well as proceedings about phase change materials for cold storages are studied to determining selection of phase change material for implementation in storages of vegetables and fruits at Indore, India. Data sheet of phase change material of HS01 and OM03 presented in table 5.

Table: 5 Technical details of Phase change material of HS01 and OM03

Property	Value HS01	Value OM03
Melting Temp (0 °C)	1	4
Freezing Temp (0 °C)	1	3
Latent Heat (kJ/kg)	350	229
Liquid Density (kg/m ³)	1010	835
Solid Density (kg/m ³)	924	912
Liquid Specific Heat (kJ/kgK)	3.9	1.91
Liquid Thermal Conductivity (W/mK)	0.55	0.146
Solid Thermal Conductivity (W/mK)	2.2	0.224
Base Material	Inorganic	Organic
Thermal Stability (Cycles)	~3000	~2000
Maximum Operating Temperature (0C)	~80	120
Test Method HS01	Test Conditions HS01	
ASTM D891-95	30°C	
ASTM D792-08	-20°C	
Test Method OM03	Test Conditions OM03	
ASTM D891-95	30°C	
ASTM D792-08	0°C	

VI. CONCLUSION

Phase change material thermal properties decline significantly with temperature for vegetables cold storages. As per research studies paraffin, polythene glycol, salt hydrates (HS01), OM03 and water may be used as phase change material to develop cold storage for vegetables. The PCM is chemically and thermally stable for cold storage and easily available. The most expensive part of storing vegetables or fruits in cold conditions would be customization. Heat is absorbed or released when the materials change states in OM03 and HS01. There will be two phase change material which can be used for cold storage in near future. Experimental analysis of phase change materials HS01 and OM03 based cold storage for vegetables may be provided.

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