

Change in food processing could save millions of gallons of water

By Robert Rodriguez, Fresno Bee

Millions of gallons of water run through fruit processing plants every year, generating high costs and an ocean of waste for companies nationwide.

But all that could change with technology developed by Fresno State professor Gour Choudhury.

Choudhury, a specialist in food processing systems, has devised a system that uses air, rather than water, to blast peels off fruit. The invention could slash the water use by 80%, saving companies each tens of thousands of dollars a month.

The project has been three years in the making and could soon be on the market as an eco-friendly solution for processors of peaches, tomatoes and other soft fruit that needs to be peeled.

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