MECHANICAL PICKERS Although harvesting cereal crops such as wheat and barley has long been done by large machines known as combine harvesters, mechanising the picking of fruit crops such as tomatoes or apples has proved more difficult.in addition, the more intelligent pickers should be able to develop a database of information on the health of each individual plant, enabling the grower to provide it with fertiliser and water to maintain its maximum productivity.Farmers have generally relied on human labour to harvest these, but in wealthy countries it has become increasingly difficult to find pickers willing to work for the wages farmers are able to pay.Such devices will inevitably be expensive, but will save farmers from the complexities of managing a labour force.