

Title Effect of pre-harvest chitosan sprays on growth of curcuma 'Laddawan' (*Curcuma alismatifolia* × *Curcuma cordata*)

Authors W. Tamala, P. Jitareerat, A. Uthairatanakij, K. Obsuwan

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Abstract

Effects of a foliar application of N:P:K fertilizer (20-20-20) combined with various concentrations of chitosan at 0, 10, 20, 40 or 80 mg•L⁻¹ during the growth of *Curcuma* 'Laddawan' were studied. The results showed that although the application of chitosan concentration at 80 mg•L⁻¹ had plant height, number of leaves per plant, inflorescences length, diameter of rachis, diameter of peduncle higher than untreated plants, there were no significant differences among treatments. The application of the foliar fertilizer combined with chitosan at concentration of 20 mg•L⁻¹ had significant effects on weight of inflorescences and leaves area greater than other treatments. The effects of chitosan on enhancing postharvest qualities of *Curcuma* 'Laddawan' flowers are discussed.