

Title Effect of thidiazuron on quality and vase life of Heliconia (*Heliconia spp.* cv. Bigbug)
Authors B. Piromruen, M. Buanong, S. Kanlayanarat
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Abstract

Improving the quality and shelf life of cut Heliconia (*Heliconia spp.* cv. Bigbug) through the application of thidiazuron (TDZ) was investigated. Flowers held in 5 μ M TDZ had the longest vase life (9.6 d) compared to non-treated (control) flowers which had the shortest vase life (6.6 d) while treatments of higher concentrations of TDZ shorten the vase life of Heliconia. However, there were no significant differences in changes in flower color, fresh weight, water uptake, respiration rate and ethylene production among all treatments.