

Title Influence of preservative materials on post harvest performance of cut windowleaf foliage (*Monstera deliciosa*)

Author Farahat, M.M. and A. Gaber

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Abstract

Cut flowers and foliage occupy an important position in the local and foreign markets. Laboratory trials were carried out to investigate the effect of preservative chemicals on vase life of cut leaves of *Monstera deliciosa*. Freshly cut leaves of windowleaf were put in vases containing 8-hydroxyquinoline sulfate (8-HQS) at 200 and 400 ppm with sucrose 30 g/l, calcium chloride (CaCl₂) at 500 and 1000 ppm; and gibberellic acid (GA₃) at the rate of 50 ppm was the most efficiency treatment in increasing the vase life period (59 days) followed by GA₃ at 25 ppm (51 days). While, using 8-HQS at 400 ppm + 30 g/l sucrose gave the lowest vase life period (12 days). The maximum amount of total soluble sugars resulted from GA₃ at the rate of 50 ppm after 6 and 12 days. Also, GA₃ at 50 and 25 ppm gave the highest values of chlorophyll after 6 and 12 days, respectively. A maximum value in change fresh weight (%) resulted from using distilled water from beginning of hold in solution after 6, 9 and 12 days. Calcium chloride at 1000 ppm and GA₃ at 50 ppm was the most suitable preservative solutions for improving water uptake (%). Based on our results it could be increase the vase life of cut leaves of windowleaf with using the GA₃.