

Title Cut *Alpinia purpurata* pink vase life is extended by application chitosan

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Abstract

Cut *Alpinia* sp is a new, emerging cut flower in Indonesia. Their performance attracts consumer for placing the cut flower in home, office or event decoration. Extending the vase life of the flower would give benefit to the farmer and distributor during distribution and marketing period. Chitosan is a chemical produced from chitin which is considered as natural product and has been reported prolong the vase life of *Estonia grandiflorum*. In this study chitosan has been applied as dip solution or in holding solution. Applications performed were holding solutions and dip solution chitosan. The concentrations in holdings were 0.0, 0.025, 0.125, 0.25% whilst as a dip were 0.0, 0.1, 0.5 and 1.0%. After application of chitosan, the parameters such as uptake, respiration rate, weight loss and colour were monitored. At tropical ambient temperature the vase life extension was gained when cut *Alpinia purpurata* pink were dipped in 0.1% chitosan with the vase life of 19.3 days (4 days extension). In holding solution, chitosan was not effective. Thus, 0.1% chitosan dip is recommended for postharvest treatment of these flower.