

Title Preservation of Foliages for Dry Flower Product Making
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Abstract

An experiment was conducted at Horticultural Research Station, Yercaud, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University during 2009-2010 to identify suitable foliages for dry flower product making. Five species of foliages namely *Camellia reticulata*, *Grevillea robusta*, *Podocarpus macrophyllus*, *Pteridium aquilinum* and *Thuja orientalis* were selected and subjected to glycerine drying by full dip method. The dried foliages were assessed for aesthetic parameters such as shape retention, texture, brittleness, change in colour intensity and overall acceptance. Glycerine treatment proved superior with respect to retention of shape, texture and colour apart from making the leaves very supple. Among the five plant species, overall acceptance was excellent for *Grevillea robusta* (3.75), *Pteridium aquilinum* (3.73) and *Thuja orientalis* (3.67). The acceptance scores were good for *Camellia reticulata* (3.44) and *Podocarpus macrophyllus* (3.28). Thus the study revealed the suitability of the above five plant species for preparing dry flower products such as wreath, garland, candle stand, Christmas tree and small table arrangements.