

**Title** Effect of different maturity stages on display-life of cut *Dendrobium* orchids

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#### **Abstract**

*Dendrobium* orchid inflorescences are the most important cut flower for exports. The experiment was to investigate the vase-life of cut *Dendrobium* Suree White and *Dendrobium* Suree Peach '115' inflorescences at different stages of development. Inflorescences of both cultivars were harvested from Mana Orchid nursery at four different stages of development and were transported to the laboratory at Silpakorn University within one hour. The four different stages were determined as following; stage1 had 25 % open flowers, stage 2 had 40% open flowers, stage 3 had 50% open flowers and stage 4 had 75% open flowers per inflorescence where 40% open stage serves as commercial stage. The stem ends were recut to ensure a uniform size before placing in distilled water at 25°C for the evaluation of vase-life. The results showed that cut inflorescences of *Dendrobium* Suree White at different stages of development did not affect its vase-life, while the inflorescences of *Dendrobium* Suree Peach '115' cut at 25% of open florets had a longer vase-life (approximately 10 days) compared with other stages (8, 6 and 5 days respectively).