

Effects of ethylene on the post-production of potted ornamental peppers (*Capsicum annuum* L.)

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Abstract

The goal of this work was to determine the sensitivity and influence of ethylene on the post-production life of ornamental potted peppers. Exposing the plants to 10 $\mu\text{L/L}$ ethylene for 48 hours was sufficient to induce chlorophyll degradation in the leaves in all genotypes. Ethylene treatment resulted in complete abscission of leaves for the cultivar 'Calypso', but the accession BGH 7073 was immune to the ethylene, while accessions BGH 1039 and MG 302 had an intermediate response. Except for 'Calypso', ethylene induced abscission of fruits in all the remaining genotypes, but with different degrees of sensitivity. Ethylene treatment shortened the overall display the post-production life in all genotypes, except for the accession MG 302.