

Title Evaluation of cold-store strawberry plant quality according to different postharvest treatments
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Abstract

Because of its geographic location and isolation, Chile possesses good prospects for the production of strawberry plants for export to the main producing countries. The objective of the present study was to analyse different postharvest treatments using plants of cv. Pajaro grown in a nursery located in Los Angeles (VIII Region – Chile). Plants were assessed after being subjected to the following postharvest treatments: the effect of washing plants, storage in two types of bags (common bags or gas-proof bags), and the effect of a week's storage at 2°C at the beginning of the storage period. Plants were stored at –2°C for 20, 40, 80, 120 and 160 days. The results indicated that a wash treatment prior to cold storage negatively affected the starch content and the percentage of plants that established. Better results were observed when plants were maintained in common bags than in gas-proof bags. A 2°C, pre-storage treatment had no positive effect.