



## Response of chemical preservative on post-harvest life of gladiolus cv. HER MAJESTY

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**Abstract :** A post harvest experiment was conducted to see the response of chemical preservative on post-harvest life of gladiolus cv. Her Majesty at the post-harvest Laboratory, Department of Horticulture, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi during 2011. Experiment was laid out in a completely randomized design with three replications. In this experiment different treatments viz., AgNO<sub>3</sub> 200 ppm, AgNO<sub>3</sub> 400 ppm, sucrose 2%, sucrose 4%, sucrose 2%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 200 ppm, sucrose 2%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 400 ppm, sucrose 4%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 200 ppm, sucrose 4%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 400 ppm and control (distilled water) were applied. Gladiolus spikes were harvested in the morning and placed straight in the bucket containing water and brought to the post-harvest Laboratory for study. Data revealed that sucrose and biocide played important role in deciding the post-harvest life of gladiolus. Sucrose 2% resulted in early opening of first floret (2.40 days). Days to maximum number of open floret without withering of lower floret and maximum number of open floret without withering of lower floret and days to opening fifth floret was recorded with sucrose 2%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 200 ppm. All the treatments of holding solution failed to exert any significant effect on days to opening of fifth floret and days to withering of fifth floret. Treatment sucrose 4%+AgNO<sub>3</sub> 200 ppm was found beneficial to extend the vase life.

**Key Words :** Gladiolus, Chemical preservative, Post-harvest life

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