



Research Paper

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Effect of pulsing and holding solutions on vase life of *Dendrobium* cv. SONIA 17

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ABSTRACT : Effect of different pulsing treatments and holding solutions on the vase life of cut spikes of the orchid, *Dendrobium* cv. Sonia-17 was studied. Among the pulsing treatments, pre-cooling treatment done at 15°C for 12 h recorded maximum spike longevity of 32 days, maximum number of days for wilting of first floret (26 days), maximum number of days for wilting of all florets (38 days) and maximum water uptake (10 ml). In the trial using different holding solutions, AgNO₃ (25 ppm) + sucrose (5%) gave maximum vase life of 35 days, maximum number of days for wilting of first flower (17.3 days) and maximum number of days for wilting of all flowers (53.7 days). Pre-cooling treatment done at 15°C for 12 h and holding solutions containing AgNO₃ (25 ppm) + sucrose (5%) was found to be the best treatments to enhance the vase life of cut spikes of the orchid, *Dendrobium* cv. SONIA-17.

KEY WORDS : Flower spike, Vase life, Pulsing, Holding

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