

Effects of storage temperature and preservative on the quality of cut flower of *Hypericum x inodorum*¹

Chi-Cheng Chen² Pei-Rong Hung³

Abstract

In order to extend ornamental value and vase life of *H. x inodorum*, this study explored the use of different low-temperature storage and preservative treatment on the quality of *H. x inodorum*. The quality of *H. x inodorum* decreased with the increase of storage temperature and time. The percentage of acceptable fruits was maintained above 90% after 5°C stored for three weeks, and decreased by only 3% when one to three weeks. The commercial preservative solution Chrysal Clear and homemade preservative solution 50 ppm NaOCl + 1% sucrose were added to make the vase life of *H. x inodorum* at 5°C for 7 days and 6 days, respectively. While Chrysal Clear extended the vase life of *H. x inodorum* to more than 11 days, and homemade preservative solution treatments 50 ppm NaOCl and 50 ppm NaOCl + 1% sucrose + 10 mM CaCl₂ extended the vase life to more than 7 days.

Key words: *Hypericum spp.*, postharvest, low temperature, vase life

1. Research article No.257 of Hualien District Agricultural Research and Extension Station.

2. Associate researcher, Lanyang Branch Station, Hualien DARES.

3. Contract-based assistant, Lanyang Branch Station, Hualien DARES.