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Effect of Naphthalene Acetic Acid (NAA) on Vase Life, Chlorophyll b Content and Water Relation of Cut *Alestroemeria hybrida*

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ABSTRACT

To evaluation of effect of NAA on vase life and postharvest characters of cut Alstroemeria hybrida, a completely randomized design experiment with 3 level of NAA (0,10 and 20 mg L^{-1}) and 3 replications was carried out. Analysis of variance showed that effectof NAA on vase life, chlorophyll b content and loss of °brix was significant ($p \le 0.05$). Results showed that 10mg L^{-1} NAA was the best treatment for vase life (9.85 days) and loss of °brix (0.73%). Also 20 mg l^{-1} NAA showed highest chlorophyll b content with 8.30.

Keywords: NAA, Alestroemeria, vase life, loss of °brix.

INTRODUCTION

Alstroemeria (*Alestroemeria hybrida*) is belong to Alstroemeriaceae (Liliaceae) family is one of the major important cut flower in the world[11, 13]. *Alstroemeria* sensitive to ethylene and bacterial contamination and these 2 problems cause to vascular blockage and finally shorten vase life[4, 13, 14].1-Naphthalene acetic acid commonly abbreviated NAA by formula of $C_{10}H_7CO_2H$ is plant hormone that have more important role such as cell elongation, cell formation, thinning and root formation [5]. Nowdays NAA have key role in increasing vase lifeof cut flowers such as *Eustoma*[17].Saifuddin et al., [16] showed that NAA at 50, 100 and 150 mg L⁻¹ improved SPAD value and longevity in *Bougainvillea spectabilis* compare to control. The aim of this study investigation effect of NAA on vase life, chlorophyll b and loss of °brixof cut *Alstroemeria* flowers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Cut alestroemeria (*Alestroemeria hybrida*) were purchased from Mahallat (Iran) and transported topostharvest laboratory, Department of Horticulture,Rasht Branch, Islamic Azad University (Iran) at standard conditions. In this study carried out based on RCD with 3 levels of NAA (0, 10 and 20 mg L¹) with 3 replications and 9 plots. In this study vase life, chlorophyll b content and loss of $^{\circ}$ brixwas measured. End of vase life was when flower wilted or leaf was discolored[3]. In 4th day of experiment leaves of each plot were sampled andchlorophyll content measured by spectrophotometer apparatus [8, 9, 10, 11]. $^{\circ}$ brix was measured by referactometer model n- α andloss of $^{\circ}$ brixmeasured by thisformula [8]:

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Loss of °brix: °brixin first day- °brixin final day (end of vase life)

Analysis of variance evaluated by SPSS software and mean comparison wasperformed by LSD test at 1 or 5 percent probability.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of variance showed that effect of NAA on measured traits was significant ($p\leq0.05$). Results showed that 10 mg L⁻¹ NAA was the best treatmentfor vase life(0.85 days) and loss of °brix(0.73). Also 20 mg L⁻¹NAA showed highest chlorophyllb content with 8.30. Positive effect of NAA on vase life, chlorophyllb content and loss of °brixis due to improvement waterrelation and water uptake, inhibition of chlorophyllase enzyme and decreased of respiration process [1, 6, 7, 12, 14, 15]. Saifuddin et al., [16] showed that NAAat 50, 100 and 150 mg L⁻¹ improved SPAD value and longevity of *Bougainvillea spectabilis* compared to control. Hashemabadi[8] showed that antiethylene compounds improved vase life and chlorophyll content, reduced loss of °brixin cut carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* cv. Tempo).However treatment with the synthetic auxin (2, 4-D) at 500 mg L⁻¹suppresses ethylene production and delays petal senescence of carnation[15]. Our results also about positive effect of PGR_s on extending vase life and chlorophyl content by Chang and Chen [2].

Table.	Effect of different level of NAA	on vase life, chlorophyll b content	and loss of brix of cut Alestroemeria
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Treatments	Vaselife (days)	Chlorophyll b content	Loss of °brix (% sucrose)
Control	8.62 b	6.25b	0.76 b
10 mgL ⁻¹ NAA	9.85 a	5.33 b	0.73 b
20 mg L ⁻¹ ANN	8.62 b	8.30 a	0.81 a

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our results showed that NAA at 10 mg L^{-1} concentration improved vase life of cut *Alestroemeria* and 20 mg L^{1} NAA delayed leaf senescence of this flower.

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