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Center for Smart Agriculture

High value Cut flowers



Module 3: Dendrobium Orchid Cultivation
Session 8: Maturity Indices and Harvest



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Maturity

- Maturity index for harvesting dendrobium differs depending on market and cultivar
- Dendrobium is harvested as a cut flower



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Stage of Harvest

- Flower spikes are generally harvested with four to six unopened buds
- 70-75% of the lower flowers should be fully open
- This stage of harvesting helps to open the remaining buds



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Time of Harvest

Harvest should be done in the early morning or late evening



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Method of harvesting

- Harvesting is most convenient using shears provided with auxiliary jaws to hold the bloom after harvest
- The cut is normally made so as to leave 2 five-foliate leaves below the cut



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Yield

- Dendrobium can provide flower spike round the year
- Flower production starts 18 months after planting
- It can produce 5-6 spikes per plant per year
- The number of flower spikes per plant increases as plants age, reaches maximum at 3-4 years



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THANK YOU