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Center for Smart Agriculture

High value Cut flowers



Module 3: Dendrobium Orchid Cultivation

Session 9: Grading and Post Harvest Management



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Grading

Name of the grade	Length of the spike	No. of opened flowers
SMALL-S	30 cm	4-5
MEDIUM-M	40 cm	6-8
LARGE-L	45 cm	8-10
EXTRA LARGE-XL	50 cm	10



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Post Harvest care

- 2-3 inches of harvested spikes should be placed clean bucket of water
- Spikes should be immersed in warm water improves post harvest longevity



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Vase life enhancers

- Pre-cooling at 4-6⁰C for 3- 4 hours and pulsing improves the vase life
- The best pulsing treatment is sucrose 6 % and BA 25 ppm.
- Pulsing improves quality and vase life



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Ethylene sensitivity

- Dendrobium orchid flowers are extremely sensitive to ethylene even at very low levels.
- Pollination and emasculation triggers ethylene production by flowers
- In order to avoid the rapid wilting the above cut flowers should be packed properly within packaging boxes.
- Keeping $KMNO_4$ crystals inside the packing boxes reduces the ethylene injury.



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THANK YOU