Performance of selected chemical floral preservatives on the vase life and quality of cut gladiolus cv. “WHITE PROSPERITY”
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ABSTRACT
The spikes of gladiolus cv. White prosperity were cut when first bud started to open and were placed in vase solutions consisting of different concentrations of Aluminium sulphate, Cupric sulphate, Citric acid and Sucrose. Controls were placed in distilled water. All vases were placed at room temperature. Results of the experiment revealed that the spikes treated with (Aluminium sulphate + Cupric sulphate) – 250ppm + Citric acid - 200mg/l + Sucrose – 7% produced maximum vase life, longevity of flowers, size of flowers, maximum delay in opening and fading of florets, maximum solution uptake, maximum number of days to attain full bloom stage, maximum number of florets that remained open at a time, maximum fresh and dry weight of the spikes, produced cent per cent perfect flowering i.e., Zero per cent partial and unopening of florets and caused no any loss of florets through abscission, fungal attack etc. Treatment of the spikes with (Aluminium sulphate + Cupric sulphate) – 250ppm + Citric acid - 200mg/l + Sucrose – 5% produced maximum increase in the length of rachis. Where as, maximum increase in the number of florets per spike was recorded with the treatment of (Aluminium sulphate + Cupric sulphate) – 300ppm + Citric acid - 200mg/l + Sucrose – 5%.