ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted with a view to enhance the post harvest life and quality as well as value addition by dyeing of white flowers of candytuft. Between two harvesting stages 50 per cent opened flowers recorded higher weight per cent (145.58%, 152.53% and 147.49%) on 5th day, 9th day and at cent per cent senescence stage, respectively the maximum solution uptake (42.79 ml), maximum useful vase life (9.25 days) and total vase life (10.42 days). It also maintained good quality of flowers for longer time. In all chemical preservatives, AgNO_3 (25mg/l) + sucrose 2% recorded the maximum weight (165.03%, 181.48%, and 169.00%) on 5th day, 9th day and at cent per cent senescence stage, the maximum solution uptake (57.96 ml), maximum useful vase life (12.00 days) and total vase life (13.67 days) along with excellent flower quality, high turgidity and freshness. The interaction of 50 per cent opened flowers with 25 mg/lit AgNO_3 significantly influenced the post harvest life of candytuft. In second part, the most light colour shades were obtained in D1C1 and the dark shades were obtained in D6C3. The darkest shade observed in the Yellow dye was Yellow-2, in the Orange Red dye it was Indian Red-1, in the Falsa Blue dye it was Steel Blue-2, Apple Green dye had Yellow Green-1, in Pink Rose dye it was Light Pink-2 and for Kalakhatta dye it was Rosy Brown-3. There was no significant ill effect of edible dyes on the vase life of flowers of candytuft. The average vase life of the flowers ranged from 4.36 days to 5.15 days. C.B.R. is also more after dyeing the flowers than that of white flowers.