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Results of Vase Life Studies with Floralife® Bulb Food

Background

Bulb flowers such as lily, tulip, iris and Alstroemeria are very popular among fresh cut flowers. The availability of flowers with vibrant colors and various shapes make them very attractive. With inventions of new bulb storage and growing techniques, these flowers are available year round now. As with any other cut flower type, vase life, flower opening, and petal color of bulb flowers are largely dependent on proper postharvest practices. Flower foods aid in hydration and supply essential nutrients to flowers at optimum levels. Like other flower types, bulb flowers freshness also benefit from flower food.

Research

The following table contains a compilation of data from recent cut flower experiments with bulb flowers conducted at Floralife, Inc. postharvest lab in Walterboro, S.C. A comparison of vase life with Floralife® Bulb Flower Food versus water is presented.

Results

Flower Type	Vase life in Floralife® Bulb Flower Food (# days)	Vase Life in Water (# days)	% Vase Life Increase with Floralife® Bulb Flower Food
'Polyanna' Asiatic Lily	15.9	10.8	47%
'Chopin' Asiatic Lily	17.4	12.0	45%
'Tresor' Asiatic Lily	16.1	8.5	89%
'Dreamland' Asiatic Lily	17.2	11.6	48%
'White Gazer' Oriental Lily	14.8	12.3	20%
'Shocking' Oriental Lily	14.0	10.7	31%
'Soldara' Oriental Lily	13.5	10.0	35%
'Broadway' Oriental Lily	12.3	10.6	16%
'Diamond' Alstroemeria	10.1	7.9	28%
'Balance' Alstroemeria	17.8	12.0	48%
'Ile de France' Tulip	8.9	6.6	35%
'Silver Dollar' Tulip	9.1	7.8	17%
'Debutante' Tulip	9.0	6.3	43%
'World Favorite' Tulip	8.1	6.2	31%
'Telstar' Iris	10.3	6.3	63%
'Case Blanca' Iris	9.9	6.3	57%
Average	12.78	9.12	40.13%



Water

Floralife® Bulb Flower Food

Photo taken on Experiment Day 9

Conclusion

The use of Floralife® Bulb Flower Food was beneficial for fresh cut bulb flowers tested in these experiments. On average, there was an increase of 3.66 days vase life, or 40.13% added freshness. The results of effectiveness will vary depending on the type of bulb flower and even specific cultivar.