

Specific Crop Treatments

Tulip



Species: *Tulipa Gesneriana*

Family: *Liliaceae*

Origin: Persia

Grower Recommendations

Use Floralife's Hydraflor®/100 for 1/2 hour immediately after harvest and then transfer flowers into a properly mixed solution of a Floralife® Fresh Flower Food or Professional formula. If tulips are going to be stored dry, best results are obtained when flowers are stored vertically, with bulbs on, at 34-38F.

Wholesaler/Retailer Recommendations

Buying Tips:

- Ask: Variety name. Different varieties have different flower qualities. Learn the varieties that work best at your location.
- Avoid: Fully opened flowers; limp stems.
- Look for: Flowers just beginning to show color.

Processing:

Unpack immediately. Remove foliage below water level. Recut stems. Cut off white fleshy basal portion of stem.

Pretreatment:

Use Floralife Hydraflor®/100 pretreatment for 1/2 hour at room temperature (*see below*) to promote water uptake and ensure proper hydration, so that tulips become firm and stems remain free flowing.

Note: Do not hold with freshly cut daffodils since they exude a sappy secretion that can clog tulip stems and decrease flower life.

Holding Solution:

Use fresh flower food at recommended rate: Use Floralife® Crystal Clear™, Floralife® Professional or Clear Professional, or depending on water test results, Floralife® Original, Special Blend Hard Water® or Special Blend Pure Water®.

To have water tested, send a plastic quart bottle of your water to Floralife, Inc., 751 Thunderbolt Drive, Walterboro, SC, 29488, Attn: Laboratory.

Hold flowers at room temperature for 1-2 hours (*2-4 if flowers are limp*) prior to storage in cooler or designing. Keep stems wrapped in paper or plastic sleeves to keep stems upright. As a finishing touch to any floral design, spray Floralife FloralMist® over entire project.

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Tulip (continued)

Holding Solution:

Cutting a slit just under the flower head in the tulip stem has not been proven to keep the flower from opening.

Storage:

Place in a 34-38°F cooler with 80-90% humidity.

Cleaning:

Use Floralife Formula D.C.D.™ to clean buckets, vases, coolers, etc. D.C.D. is specially formulated to kill microbes over an extended period.

Customer Satisfaction:

Always give a packet of a Floralife® Fresh Flower Food with your designs. Five gram packets treat one pint of water. Ten gram packets treat one quart of water.

Troubleshooting:

Problem:

Flowers "blow" open too quickly

Reason/Solution:

Likely due to being held at warm temperatures. Hold at 34-38F. If displaying outside cooler, try to hold at a cool temperature at night. Also there are different varieties that "blow" open more quickly than others.

Stems continue to "grow" (*elongate*) after harvest

Keep flowers at the cool temperature listed above. Try to insert tulips into arrangements at the latest time possible or place them deeper into the design.