The Influence of Flower Stem Picking Phase upon Flower Evolution during Storage in Water in Species *Polyanthes tuberosa*

Lenuta Mirela CHIS\(^1\), Dumitru ZAHARIA\(^2\), Eugenia HARSAN\(^1\), Maria CANTOR\(^2\), Bianca VLAICU\(^1\)

\(^1\)Fruit Research Station Cluj, 5 Horticultorilor St., Cluj-Napoca, Romania; lemy_ch@yahoo.com
\(^2\)University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Horticulture, 3-5 Manastur St., Cluj-Napoca 400372, Romania

**Keywords:** *Polyanthes tuberosa*, storage

**ABSTRACT**

The beauty of the flowers and the charm of the perfume of species *Polyanthes tuberosa* are very strong reasons for establishing the optimal moment for picking the inflorescences of this species, so that their delightful presence should persist for as long as possible. Five variants in different picking phases were studied. Observations were done regarding: the number of flowers opened in the moment of picking; the number of flowers open at the same time; the number of buds open at the same time; the number of buds left unopened until the end of the storage period; the period of storage in water. All the experimental data were interpreted statistically. Such, V1 had the greatest number of unopened and aborted buds (8) and the storage period was of 8 days. V2 had 6 buds left unopened and a storage period of 8 days. V3 and V4 presented the smallest number of unopened buds/inflorescence (2 for V3 and 1 for V4, respectively) and the longest duration for the flowers stored in water (14 days). V5 presented the largest number of flowers open at the same time (10 from 24 buds/inflorescence), a number of 2 unopened buds and a storage period of 11 days. By analyzing the results, we can conclude that the optimal moment for picking is in the phase of 3-4 flowers opened/inflorescence (V3 and V4).