

Other cut flowers

This chart applies whenever there is no specific assessment chart available.

Entry control

Damage

Record: damage resulting from harvest, transport or previously present insects

During testing

In general

Animal parasites

Description: presence of living parasites on flower, stem or leaves

Action: the stem is discarded and considered a loss

Disease

Record: damage and degree of damage to flower, stem and/or leaves are a result of bacteria, fungus or virus.

Damage

Record: damage resulting from harvest, transport or previously present insects

Water quality

Record: the degree to which the vase water is polluted: (1) slightly turbid, (2) turbid, (3) very turbid

Flower

Open flowers (not for highly floriferous products)

Description: flowers that have opened properly (without deformities)

Record: count/estimate the number of open flowers

Flowering percentage (for highly floriferous products)

Description: the percentage of properly opened buds as compared with the total number of buds of flowering size

Record: estimate/determine the flowering percentage

Faded flowers

Description: flowers are limp and/or transparent and/or have turned brown and/or are falling off and/or are desiccated

Record: count/estimate the number of faded flowers

Reject: if more than 50% of the total number of flowers and buds of flowering size have faded.

Bud/flower desiccation and/or bud/flower drop

Description: the buds and/or flowers have dried out and/or have fallen from the stem

Record: count/estimate the number of buds and/or flowers that have dried out or fallen off

Reject: if more than 50% of the total number of flowers and buds of flowering size have dried out or fallen off

Botrytis

Description: specks that can develop into glassy/brown spots

Reject: if more than 50% of the petals is more than 25% damaged

Berry

Berry drop

Description: the berries fall off the stem

Record: count/estimate the number of berries that have fallen from the stem

Reject: when more than 50% of the berries have fallen off.

Berry desiccation

- Description:* berries have become dry
Record: the degree of desiccation
Reject: if more than 50% of the berries are desiccated

Berry discolouration

- Description:* berries have turned colour
Record: the degree of discolouration

Stem

Snapped/broken

- Description:* the stem has snapped or been broken
Reject: upon detection

Slimy stems

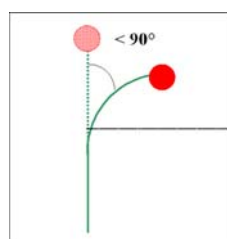
- Record:* the part of the stem standing in the water has become slimy
Reject: if stem has collapsed

Botrytis

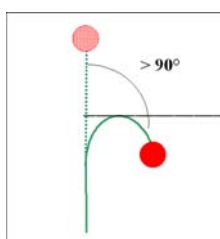
- Record:* the stem has become brown/black; sometimes accompanied by a fungal weft

Bending over

- Record:* the stem is bending over:
 stage 1: no bending over
 stage 2: the stem is bending over and the flower is hanging at an angle less than 90° (see figure)
 stage 3: the stem is bending over and the flower is hanging at an angle exceeding 90° (see figure).



stage 2



stage 3

Leaves

Multicoloured leaves

- Description:* the appearance of yellow or brown specks
Record: if the leaves display yellow or brown specks

Yellow and/or brown leaves, brown edges/spots

- Description:* the leaves become yellow, brown and/or display brown edges or spots
Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays these symptoms

Limp leaves

- Description:* leaves have become limp or are starting to hang down next to the stem
Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays this symptom.

Leaf scorch and/or leaf desiccation

Description: the leaves have become dry

Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays this symptom



Example of leaf scorch on rose leaf

Discoloured/dried leaf tips

Description: leaves display yellow and/or brown and/or dried tips

Reject: as soon as more than 50% of the leaf tips display more than 2 cm. of damage

Papery leaves

Description: leaves become desiccated but remain green

Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays this symptom

Botrytis

Description: leaves turn brown, rot away; sometimes accompanied by a fungal weft

Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays this symptom

Mildew

Description: leaves are damaged by mildew

Reject: if more than 50% of the total leaf surfaces and/or 50% of the total number of leaves displays this symptom

Agreements

- Assessment frequency shall be at least every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For products with an expected keeping quality of 6 days or less, assessment frequency shall be at least once a day Monday through Friday.
- For rejection criteria, assessment shall be conducted on the rejection day itself. A decision as to whether it would also be worthwhile to make assessments over time shall be made for each project.
- The assessments shall be made based on the result and not the cause. However, the cause shall be mentioned as a secondary reason. Example: when the leaves of a Eustoma stem have started to droop due to Botrytis, the product shall be rejected due to limp leaves and Botrytis shall be mentioned as a secondary reason. Whether this secondary reason shall be mentioned or not is also due in part to the objective of the research. (What has to be examined?)
- The reason for rejection shall be recorded.
- If a product can no longer be rated as optimum in regard to several criteria but the rejection ceiling for all rejection criteria has not yet been reached, the product shall be rejected if 3 or more of the various aspects occur to a small degree.
- After having been rejected, a stem shall still be left in the vase. If a stem is found to contain pests, the entire vase shall be removed.
- A vase shall be removed once all the stems in that vase have been rejected.
- The research design is to be provided in separate project protocols.

Source: Association of Dutch Flower Auctions

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