

Cut flowers: supplement

This chart is a supplement to the specific assessment charts.

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

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 in part due 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 reproduced in separate project protocols.

Source: Association of Dutch Flower Auctions

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