



International Journal of Current Research Vol. 8, Issue, 03, pp. 27206-27208, March, 2016

# RESEARCH ARTICLE

## EFFECT OF TINTING ON FLORETS DROP OF CUT TUBEROSE SPIKES

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#### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article History:

Received 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 Received in revised form 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 Accepted 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 Published online 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2016

#### Key words:

Tinting, Florets drop and Tuberose spike.

#### **ABSTRACT**

The complete research work was carried out with single experiment with factorial concept. The tuberose spikes were treated with different synthetic food dyes used are tomato red, rose pink, lemon yellow, kesar yellow, apple green and blue with two concentrations (6 and 8 %) and three different durations (4, 6 and 8 hrs). Number of florets dropping per day showed the significant difference for different food dyes from fourth to seventh day. Total number of florets were maximum dropped in  $P_3$  (12.02), which was on par with  $P_2$  (11.50) and minimum number of florets dropped in  $P_6$  (4.94). The different concentrations of food dyes treatments showed significant difference for florets dropping on  $P_6$  (4.94). However, the maximum florets drop was found in  $P_6$  (0.78) which was on par with  $P_6$  (0.70), whereas minimum found in control and  $P_6$  (0.00). Number of florets dropping has showed significant difference for durations of food dyes treatments on  $P_6$  (1.00).

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Citation: Suresh Chougala, B., Hemla Naik, Shivayya Mathapati, Savita K. H. and Shivakumar, 2016. "Effect of tinting on florets drop of cut tuberose spikes", *International Journal of Current Research*, 8, (03), 27206-27208.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Flowers are the wonderful creations of the nature and they are integral part of human life even before humans could find speech and alphabets for the dissemination of their ideas and feelings. Different flowers with their different colours, express different human moods. They symbolize different feelings and also carry a massage with them. But not all colours are available in all flowers so, to have a flower of our choicest colour, they have to be tint artificially. Every breeder gives his new advancement a different name taking into consideration marketing appeal and colour relevancy. Tinting is one of the important value addition technologies for imparting desired shades of colours to flowers. Tinting of flowers with dyes can really enhances the value of these flowers and helps the farmers in earning more from their produce. Only single colour in a flower limits the floral acceptability or reduces the market value.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The site, where experiment was carried out in the floricultural research laboratory, Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture, College of Horticulture Mudigere,

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University of Agricultural and Horticultural sciences, Shimoga, during 2013-014. The harvested spikes of tuberose cv Prajwal were used for the experiment. Flowers were harvested in the morning between 8.00 and 9.00 am. Immediately after harvest, the cut ends of the flower stalks were immersed in water. After bringing to the laboratory, the flowers were sorted for petal damage, pests and diseases. All the leaves from the spikes were removed and 1.0 to 1.5 cm of the bottom was recut to avoid the blockage of stem at the basal portion before dipping them in to the colour solution. The spike length was kept uniform to 60 cm at the time of dipping. The design adopted for the experiment was complete randomized design with factorial concept and replicated thrice. Three factors food dyes (P), dye concentrations (C) and durations (D). The different food dyes used were Tomato Red (P1), Rose pink (P2), Lemon yellow (P<sub>3</sub>), Kesar yellow (P<sub>4</sub>), Apple green (P<sub>5</sub>), Blue (P<sub>6</sub>). The food dyes were treated at two different concentrations 6 per cent  $(C_1)$  and 8 per cent  $(C_2)$  with three durations 4 hrs  $(D_1)$ , 6 hrs  $(D_2)$  and 8 hrs  $(D_3)$ .

# **RESULTS**

### Number of florets drop

The data on number of florets dropped per day and total number of florets dropped are compiled in Table-1 (a).

Table 1. Effect of tinting food dyes treatments on dropping of tuberose florets over different days in vase

Table 1(a). Effect of different food dyes, concentrations and durations of treatments on dropping of tuberose florets after 4th day of treatment

	Number of florets drop/spike					
Food dyes (P)	Days					
	4	5	6	7	Total	
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
P <sub>1</sub> -Tomato red	0.70 (1.04)	1.54	3.61	4.74	10.48	
P2 -Rose pink	0.65 (1.02)	2.39	4.93	3.54	11.50	
P <sub>3</sub> -Lemon yellow	0.68 (1.03)	2.26	4.83	4.24	12.02	
P <sub>4</sub> -Kesar yellow	0.56 (0.99)	1.54	4.43	4.33	10.85	
P <sub>5</sub> -Apple green	0.72 (1.05)	2.54	4.39	3.52	11.17	
P <sub>6</sub> -Blue	0.00(0.71)	1.39	2.09	1.46	4.94	
$S.Em\pm$	0.05 (0.02)	0.12	0.18	0.17	0.24	
C.D. @ 1%	0.07	0.46	0.66	0.65	0.89	
Concentrations (C)						
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
C <sub>1</sub> -6 %	0.32 (0.87)	1.51	4.05	3.71	9.55	
C <sub>2</sub> -8 %	0.78 (1.08)	2.38	4.04	3.57	10.77	
$S.Em\pm$	0.03 (0.01)	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.14	
C.D. @ 1%	0.04	NS	NS	NS	NS	
Durations (D)						
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
D <sub>1</sub> -4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.42	3.60	3.44	8.40	
D <sub>2</sub> -6 hrs	0.53 (0.96)	1.99	4.29	3.58	10.39	
D <sub>3</sub> -8 hrs	1.13 (1.25)	2.42	4.25	3.90	11.69	
$S.Em\pm$	0.04 (0.01)	0.09	0.12	0.12	0.17	
C.D. @ 1%	0.05	0.33	NS	NS	0.63	

The values in the parenthesis are square root transformed values and outside are real values.

Table 1(b). Interaction effect of different food dyes and concentrations of treatments on dropping of tuberose florets after 4th day of treatment

	Number of florets drop/spike					
Food dyes X Concentrations	Days					
(P x C)	4	5	6	7	Total	
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
P <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Tomato red at 6 %	0.37 (0.89)	1.30	3.78	5.07	10.29	
P <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Tomato red at 8 %	1.04 (1.18)	1.78	3.44	4.41	10.67	
P <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Rose pink at 6 %	0.44 (0.92)	2.15	4.85	3.78	11.22	
P <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Rose pink at 8 %	0.85 (1.12)	2.63	5.00	3.30	11.78	
P <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Lemon yellow at 6 %	0.37 (0.89)	1.33	4.89	4.15	10.74	
P <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Lemon yellow at 8 %	1.00 (1.17)	3.19	4.78	4.33	13.30	
P <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Kesar yellow at 6 %	0.37 (0.89)	1.52	4.22	3.78	9.89	
P <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Kesar yellow at 8 %	0.74 (1.08)	1.56	4.63	4.89	11.81	
P <sub>5</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Apple green at 6 %	0.37 (0.89)	1.44	4.59	3.89	10.30	
P <sub>5</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Apple green at 8 %	1.07 (1.20)	3.63	4.18	3.15	12.04	
P <sub>6</sub> C <sub>1</sub> -Blue at 6 %	0.00 (0.71)	1.30	1.96	1.59	4.85	
P <sub>6</sub> C <sub>2</sub> -Blue at 8 %	0.00 (0.71)	1.48	2.22	1.33	5.04	
S.Em±	0.07 (0.02)	0.17	0.25	0.25	0.33	
C.D. @ 1%	0.09	0.65	0.93	NS	NS	

The values in the parenthesis are square root transformed values and outside are real values.

Number of florets dropping per day showed the significant difference for different food dyes from fourth to seventh day [Table 1(a)], where the maximum number of florets were dropped in  $P_5$  (0.72),  $P_5$  (2.54),  $P_2$  (4.93) and  $P_1$  (4.74), which were on par with  $P_1$  (0.70),  $P_2$  (2.39),  $P_3$  (4.83) and  $P_1$  (4.33), whereas minimum dropped in control (0.00), control (0.00), control (1.00) and  $P_6$  (1.46), respectively. Total number of florets were maximum dropped in  $P_3$  (12.02), which was on par with  $P_2$  (11.50) and minimum number of florets dropped in

 $P_6$  (4.94). The different concentrations of food dyes treatments showed significant difference for florets dropping on 4<sup>th</sup> day [Table 1(a)]. However, the maximum florets drop was found in  $C_2$  (0.78) which was on par with  $P_1$  (0.70), whereas minimum found in control and  $P_6$  (0.00). Florets dropping was did not exhibit any significant difference from fifth to seventh day. The maximum number of florets was dropped in  $C_2$  (2.38),  $C_1$  (4.05) and  $C_1$  (3.71) and minimum number of florets dropped in control (0.00), (1.00) and (3.57), respectively from fifth to seventh day. The total number of maximum florets dropped in  $C_2$  (10.77) and minimum observed in control (6.00).

Table 1(c). Interaction effect of different food dyes and durations of treatments on dropping of tuberose florets after 4th day of treatment

Food dyes X Durations	Number of florets drop/spike					
(P x D)	days					
(1 X D)	4	5	6	7	Total	
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
P <sub>1</sub> D <sub>1</sub> .Tomato red for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.06	1.56	4.72	7.00	
P <sub>1</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Tomato red for 6 hrs	0.56 (0.99)	2.28	4.72	4.33	11.89	
P <sub>1</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Tomato red for 8 hrs	1.56 (1.42)	1.28	4.56	5.17	12.55	
P <sub>2</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -Rose pink for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.72	4.56	3.06	9.33	
P <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Rose pink for 6 hrs	0.61 (1.01)	2.00	5.17	4.05	11.84	
P <sub>2</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Rose pink for 8 hrs	1.33 (1.35)	3.45	5.06	3.50	13.33	
P <sub>3</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -Lemon yellow for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.56	4.28	4.39	10.22	
P <sub>3</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Lemon yellow for 6 hrs	0.56 (0.99)	1.84	5.39	4.28	12.06	
P <sub>3</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Lemon yellow for 8 hrs	1.50 (1.40)	3.39	4.83	4.05	13.78	
P <sub>4</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -Kesar yellow for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.33	4.61	3.61	9.56	
P <sub>4</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Kesar yellow for 6 hrs	0.56 (0.99)	1.61	4.39	4.28	10.83	
P <sub>4</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Kesar yellow for 8 hrs	1.11 (1.27)	1.67	4.28	5.11	12.17	
P <sub>5</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -Apple green for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.39	4.56	3.33	9.28	
P <sub>5</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Apple green for 6 hrs	0.89 (1.11)	3.06	4.17	3.33	11.45	
P <sub>5</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Apple green for 8 hrs	1.28 (1.33)	3.17	4.45	3.89	12.78	
P <sub>6</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -Blue for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.44	2.06	1.50	5.00	
P <sub>6</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -Blue for 6 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.17	1.89	1.22	4.28	
P <sub>6</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -Blue for 8 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.56	2.33	1.67	5.56	
S.Em±	0.09 (0.03)	0.21	0.31	0.30	0.41	
C.D. @ 1%	0.11	0.80	NS	NS	1.54	

The values in the parenthesis are square root transformed values and outside are real values.

Table 1(d). Interaction effect of different concentrations and durations of treatments on dropping of tuberose florets after 4th day of treatment

C V	Number of florets drop/spike					
Concentrations X Durations (C x D)	Days					
	4	5	6	7	Total	
Control	0.00	0.00	1.00	5.00	6.00	
C <sub>1</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -6 % for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.35	3.39	3.37	8.00	
C <sub>1</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -6 % for 6 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.61	4.35	3.78	9.74	
C <sub>1</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -6 % for 8 hrs	0.96 (1.19)	1.56	4.41	3.98	10.91	
C <sub>2</sub> D <sub>1</sub> -6 % for 4 hrs	0.00 (0.71)	1.48	3.81	3.50	8.80	
C <sub>2</sub> D <sub>2</sub> -8 % for 6 hrs	1.05 (1.22)	2.37	4.22	3.39	11.04	
C <sub>2</sub> D <sub>3</sub> -8 % for 8 hrs	1.30 (1.30)	3.28	4.09	3.81	12.48	
S.Em±	0.05 (0.02)	0.12	0.18	0.17	0.24	
C.D. @ 1%	0.07	0.46	NS	NS	NS	

The values in the parenthesis are square root transformed values and outside are real values.

Cost of spike: Rs. 10/spike. Cost of Food dyes:

- Tomato red- Rs. 5/10 g.
- Rose pink -Rs. 5/10 g.
- Lemon yellow Rs. 5/10 g.

- Kesar yellow- Rs. 5/10 g.
- Apple green- Rs. 5/10 g.
- Blue- Rs. 20/100

Number of florets dropping has showed significant difference for durations of food dyes treatments on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> day [Table 1(a)], where the maximum florets drop found in  $D_3(1.13)$  and  $D_3$  (2.42) which were followed by  $D_2$  (0.53) and  $D_2$  (1.99), respectively. Minimum number of florets dropping found D<sub>1</sub> and control (0.00) on 4th day and minimum flower drop found in control (0.00) on 5<sup>th</sup> day. Number of florets dropping did not notice any significant difference on sixth and seventh day, the maximum number of florets was drop in  $D_2$  (4.29) and  $D_3$ (3.90), whereas minimum observed in control (1.00) and  $D_1$ (3.44). The total number of maximum florets dropped in D<sub>3</sub> (11.69) and minimum observed in control (6.00). The interaction effect for different food dyes and colour concentrations were showed the significant difference found for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> day [Table 1(b)], where the maximum number of florets dropped in P<sub>5</sub> C<sub>2</sub> (1.07), P<sub>5</sub> C<sub>2</sub> (3.63) and P<sub>2</sub>  $C_2$  (5.00), which were on par with  $P_1$   $C_2$  (1.04),  $P_3$   $C_2$  (3.19) and P<sub>3</sub> C<sub>1</sub> (4.89), whereas minimum number of florets were dropped in  $P_6$   $C_1$  (0.00), control (1.30) and control (1.96), respectively. Florets dropping did not exhibit any significant difference on seventh day and for total number of florets, where the maximum number of florets was dropped in P<sub>1</sub> C<sub>1</sub> (5.07) and P<sub>3</sub> C<sub>2</sub> (13.30), whereas minimum observed in P<sub>6</sub> C<sub>2</sub> (1.33) and P<sub>6</sub> C<sub>2</sub> (4.85). The number of florets dropped also showed significant difference for the interaction of food dyes and durations of treatments on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> day [Table 1(c)], where the maximum florets dropped were found in P<sub>1</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (1.56) and control, P<sub>1</sub> D<sub>2</sub> P<sub>2</sub> D<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> D<sub>1</sub> (0.00), which were on par with P<sub>3</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (1.50) and P<sub>3</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (3.39), respectively, whereas minimum dropping of florets found in lesser durations of treatments. Florets dropping did not exhibit any significant difference on sixth day, seventh day and for total number of florets, where the maximum number of florets was dropped in  $P_3$   $D_2$  (5.39),  $P_1$ D<sub>3</sub> (5.17) and P<sub>3</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (13.78), whereas minimum observed in control (1.00), P<sub>6</sub> D<sub>2</sub> (1.22) and P<sub>6</sub> D<sub>2</sub> (4.28), respectively. The combined effect of concentrations and durations of food dyes showed the significant difference only on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> day [Table 1(d)], where the maximum number of florets dropped in  $C_2$   $D_3$ (1.30) and  $C_2$   $D_3$  (3.28) followed by  $C_2$   $D_2$  (1.05) and  $C_2$   $D_2$ (2.37), where as minimum number of florets dropping was found in  $C_1$   $D_1$  (0.00) and control (0.00), respectively. Florets dropping did not exhibit any significant difference on sixth day. seventh day and for total number of florets, where the maximum number of florets was dropped in C<sub>1</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (4.41), C<sub>1</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (3.98) and C<sub>2</sub> D<sub>3</sub> (12.48), whereas minimum observed in control (1.00), C<sub>1</sub> D<sub>1</sub> (3.37) and control (4.28), respectively.

## DISCUSSION

## Number of florets drop

Number of florets dropping per day showed the significant difference for different food dyes from fourth to seventh day, where the maximum number of florets was dropped in apple green, rose pink and tomato red treated spikes, whereas minimum dropped in control and blue food dye treated spikes. The toal number of florets was dropped in tomato red treated spikes and minimum number of florets dropped in blue dye treated spikes. Florets dropping were found on fourth day onwards where spikes which were treated with blue edible dye were did dropped any florets. The florets in blue edible dye treated spikes wilted but not dropped might be toxic for cell metabolism in the applied treatments, and affected the osmotic pressure of the cells thus altering the cell turgidity. Also this blue edible dye might have created blockage during translocation in vascular vessels of the spikes. The different concentrations of food dyes treatments showed significance difference for florets dropping on fourth day and which was showed no significant difference for remaining days. Maximum florets dropping found in 8 per cent concentration and minimum found in control. The Maximum florets dropping might be due to toxic effect on the cell metabolism when kept in the edible dye solution 8 per cent concentration. Flower dropping was more found in higher concentration. Number of florets dropping has showed significant difference for durations of food dyes treatments on fourth and fifth day, where the maximum florets dropped found in 8 hr duration of treatment, while minimum number of florets dropping found 4 hr of dye treatment and control The Maximum florets dropping might be due to toxic effect on the cell metabolism when kept in the edible dye solution for 8 hr of immersion. Flower dropping was more found in higher duration of 8 hr where the spikes were losing their weight and decreased the vase life. The interaction effect for different food dyes and colour concentrations were showed the significant difference found from fourth to sixth day, where the maximum number of florets dropped in apple green and rose pink at 8 per cent of concentration treated spikes, whereas minimum number of florets was dropped in blue food dye at 6 per cent and control respectively.

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