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EFFECT OF SILVER NITRATE ON CUT FLOWER OF DAISY (*Gerbera jamesonii*) STORED AT AMBIENT TEMPERATURE

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the effect of four different concentrations of silver nitrate which is control (0 ppm), 100 ppm, 250 ppm and 400 ppm on cut Gerbera flower. The changes in set parameter such as flower diameter, total color changes, number of stem breakage and flower wilting were assessed as quality indicators. The assessment was performed every two days intervals. Treatment with 400 ppm was found to be the most effective compared to other concentrations in maintaining the flower quality. This study showed that treatment at 400 ppm was no significant compared to control (0 ppm) in all quality assessment. Several beneficial effects were also found such as treatment with 400 ppm silver nitrate triggered the flower to bloom with minor effect on the total color changes and stem breakage as well as reduce the wilting on Gerbera flower up to sixteen days. Thus, flowers qualities were maintained. In addition, treatment with silver nitrate at 400 ppm also increases the flower longevity up to eight days without adverse effects on visual and chemical qualities. The uses of silver nitrate can be added by the florist to maintain the longevity of the flower quality.