



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Post dehydration quality and anthocyanin content of dried rose buds cv. FIRST RED as influenced by microwave duration, setting time and storage conditions

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SUMMARY : Two experiments to study post microwave dehydration quality of cut buds of rose cv. 'FIRST RED' were conducted. First experiment comprised 9 treatment combinations involving 60, 120 and 180 seconds of microwaving in combination with 2, 4 and 6 hours of post microwave setting time. Changes in physical parameters were studied in terms of weight loss and reduction in bud diameter. Dried rose buds were subject to Aesthetic evaluation based on a 9 point score at 1, 15 and 30 days after dehydration treatment. 180 seconds of microwaving followed by 6 hours of setting time resulted in highest scores and best quality and excellently shaped buds. Second experiment involved estimation of anthocyanin content of dehydrated rose buds stored under 7 different conditions. 1. Stored in an open plastic container 2. Air tight transparent plastic container 3. Air tight clear plastic container with silica pouch 4. Airtight opaque container 5. Airtight opaque container with silica pouch 6. Air tight cellophane sleeve 7. Air tight cellophane sleeve with silica pouch. Least degradation of anthocyanin content of in buds at 10, 20 and 30 day was recorded in buds stored in opaque plastic containers with silica pouch.

KEY WORDS:

Drying, Dehydration, Rose, Microwave, Anthocyanin

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