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STANDARDIZATION OF WRAPPING MATERIALS AND STORAGE TREATMENTS FOR THE POSTHARVEST LIFE OF CHINCHERINCHEE (*ORNITHOGALUM THYRSOIDES* JACQ.) CUT FLOWERS

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ABSTRACT

The investigation entitled "Studies on postharvest handling of chincherinchee (*Ornithogalum thyrsoides* Jacq.)" were carried out at the Experimental Farm and Laboratory of Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan in the year 2012-2013. The experiment on wrapping material and storage durations was laid out in Factorial Completely Randomized Design and replicated thrice. A total of seven wrapping materials *viz*. Polyethylene (W_1), newspaper (W_2), cellophane sheet (W_3), butter paper (W_4), low density polyethylene (LDPE) (W_5) and high density polyethylene (HDPE) (W_6) as different treatments by keeping unwrapped (W_0) cut stems as control and 4 storage durations at 4^o C having relative humidity 70 per cent in 3 (D_1), 6 (D_2), 9 (D_3) and 12 (D_4) days. Wrapping of cut stems in cellophane combined with 3 days storage durations at a temperature of 4^oC improved postharvest life parameters of chincherinchee *viz*. Floret size, the percentage of unopened florets, appearance, vase life, and the amount of holding solutions consumed.

KEYWORDS: Chincherinchee, Wrapping Material, Cellophane and Vase Life