

Specific Crop Treatments



Gypsophila

Gypsophila, Gyp, Baby's Breath

Species: *Gypsophila paniculata*

Family: *Caryophyllaceae*

Origin: Mediterranean area and Eastern Europe

Grower Recommendations

Gypsophila is ethylene sensitive and benefits from an anti-ethylene product treatment such as EthylBloc®. Treat flowers with an anti-ethylene product as soon as possible after harvest. Treat with Hydraflor®/100 for 1/2 hour to increase water uptake and keep flowers free of stem plugging microorganisms. After cutting, place flower stems in a solution of Hydraflor/100 for 1 hour (or up to overnight at 34-38F). Transfer stems to a solution of one of Floralife Professional formulas for storage. Contact Floralife for specifics.

Wholesaler/Retailer Recommendations

Buying Tips:

- Ask: Has product been pretreated with an anti-ethylene product? Use the Floralife Apple Test to make certain the product has been treated correctly. Work with grower and wholesaler to receive anti-ethylene treated flowers.
- Avoid: Stems with abundance of brown or shriveled flowers; stems that are black or slimy in lower portion; stems with no flowers fully open.
- Look for: Stems with two thirds of the flowers open; flowers that have been properly precooled at grower/shipper level.

Processing:

Remove foliage below water level. Recut stems.

Pretreatment:

If gypsophila has not been treated with an anti-ethylene product, such as EthylBloc®, treat with a commercial anti-ethylene product as soon as possible. Or if gypsophila has been treated with an anti-ethylene product, use one of Floralife's hydration products to promote water uptake and hydration. This treatment will help increase bud opening, decrease flower wilting and bent neck and also keeps flower stems free flowing.

There are two Floralife Hydraflor products to consider:

- 1.) Hydraflor®/100: A concentrate, generally recommended for maximum results, especially with hard-to-hydrate flowers like roses. The treatment is usually for one half hour at room temperature.
- 2.) Floralife Quick Dip®: A ready-to-use version which requires no mixing or measuring. This quick one second dip may be more suitable to retail flower shops.

Gypsophila (continued)

Holding Solution:

Use fresh flower food at recommended rate: Use Floralife® Crystal Clear™, Floralife® Professional or Clear Professional, or depending on water test results, Floralife® Original, Special Blend Hard Water® or Special Blend Pure Water®.

To have water tested, send a plastic quart bottle of your water to: Floralife, Inc., 751 Thunderbolt Drive, Walterboro, SC 29488, Attn. Laboratory. Hold flowers at room temperature for 1-2 hours (2-4 hours or longer if trying to encourage bud opening). As a finishing touch to any floral design, use Floralife Finishing Touch® Spray over entire project.

Storage:

Place in a 34 - 38° F cooler with 80 - 90% humidity.

Cleaning:

Use Floralife Formula D.C.D.® to clean buckets, vases, coolers etc. D.C.D. is specifically formulated to kill microbes over an extended period.

Customer Satisfaction:

Always give a packet of a Floralife Brand Fresh Flower Food with your designs. Five gram packets treat one pint of water. Ten gram packets treat one quart of water.

Troubleshooting:

Problem:

Excessive brown flowers

Reason/Solution:

May be due to exposure to ethylene, disease development, or old product. Check on product harvest date and shipping/storage conditions. Make sure anti-ethylene pretreatment was performed and there is good air circulation around the flowers.

Failure of flowers to open

Can be caused by exposure to dry conditions, extended period out of water, or clogged stems. Make sure to hold in high humidity conditions. Recut stems under water, use Floralife Quick Dip or Hydraflor/100 followed by a holding solution of a properly mixed Floralife Brand Fresh Flower Food.