

# Floralife® RESEARCH UPDATE

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## Benefits of Postharvest Treatments for Fresh Cut Flowers

### Background

Three major types of commercial postharvest treatments are available for fresh cut flowers. Hydration treatments, storage (or holding) treatments and vase (consumer) treatments have been designed to satisfy specific requirements of cut flowers at each stage of handling. Proper use of these treatments can significantly improve the performance of cut flowers.

### Experiment

An experiment was conducted at the Floralife® laboratory to investigate the benefits of these postharvest treatments. Flowers ('Papaya' roses, 'Factor' chrysanthemum and white carnations) were received dry and subjected to the following care and handling steps in the sequence given below:

Treatment Type	Treatment Product	Treatment Time	Treatment Temperature
Hydration	Floralife® Hydraflor®/100 Hydration Pretreatment	16 hours	34 - 36° F
Storage (Holding)	Floralife Clear Professional™ Flower Food Solution	48 hours	34 - 36° F
		24 hours	68 - 70° F
Vase (Consumer)	Floralife Crystal Clear™ Flower Food Solution	Continuous	68 - 70° F

For the control, flower stems were placed in plain water instead of in Floralife® treatment solutions under the same conditions.

### Results

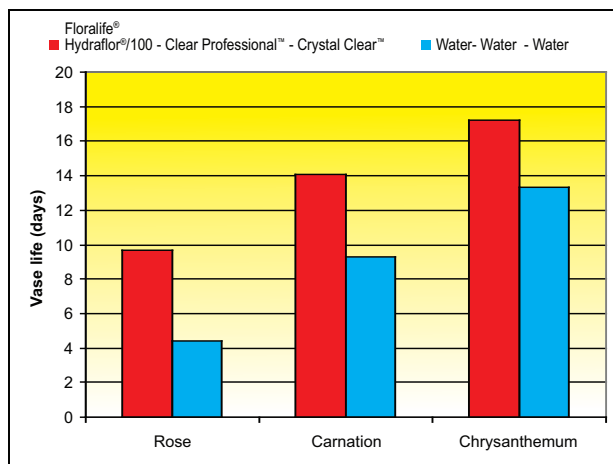


Photo of flowers on Day 7

### Conclusion

The use of proper postharvest treatments during hydration, storage and in vase solutions improves the performance of cut flowers.

For more information or to download a copy of our "Care and Handling Manual," visit [www.floralife.com](http://www.floralife.com). Questions? e-mail: [info@floralife.com](mailto:info@floralife.com)

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