RINGKASAN

Penanganan pasca panen penting untuk mempertahankan waktu kesegaran dan keragaan serta kualitas bunga. *Pulsing* merupakan perlakuan pengawetan bunga segar setelah panen untuk memberi bekal sumber nutrisi pada bunga dan melindungi tangkai bunga dari serangan mikroorganisme penyebab penyumbatan pembuluh pada tangkai bunga. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh kombinasi larutan perendam dan konsentrasi rebusan daun sirih terhadap waktu kesegaran bunga potong gerbera.

Penelitian telah dilaksanakan di Laboratorium Agronomi dan Hortikultura, Fakultas Pertanian, Universitas Jenderal Soedirman mulai 1 Agustus sampai 22 Agustus 2016. Penelitian ini menggunakan Rancangan Acak Kelompok Lengkap Faktorial dengan 2 faktor dan 3 ulangan. Faktor pertama merupakan kadar gula yang terdiri 3 taraf yaitu konsentrasi 1%, 2%, dan 3%. Faktor kedua merupakan konsentrasi rebusan daun sirih yang terdiri 3 taraf yaitu konsentrasi 3%, 6%, dan 9%. Data yang diperoleh dianalisis menggunakan Uji F 5% kemudian dilanjutkan dengan *Duncan's Multiple Range Test* (DMRT). Variabel yang diamati adalah masa kesegaran bunga, total volume larutan yang terserap, saat bunga layu, warna bunga, diameter bunga, dan diameter tangkai bunga

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa konsentrasi daun sirih 3% dapat mempertahankan kesegaran bunga gerbera hingga 10,61 hari. Kombinasi perlakuan yang terdiri dari 3% gula pasir + 300 ppm asam sitrat + 3% rebusan daun sirih mampu memperpanjang masa kesegaran bunga gerbera hingga 11,83 hari.

SUMMARY

Post-harvest handling is important to maintain the freshness and the performance and quality of the flowers. Pulsing is a flower preservation treatment immediately after harvest to give the provision source of nutrients for the flowers and flower's stalks to protect them from microorganisms that cause veins blockage in the flower stalk. This study aimed to determined the effect of concentration and a period of time soaking in the solution to gerbera cut flowers freshness.

Research has been conducted at the Labotatory of Agronomy and Horticulture, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jenderal Soedirman on 1st Auguts to 22nd September, 2016. This research used completely randomized block design with 2 factors and 3 replications. The first factor were the sugar levels that consisted of three levels in explanation concentrations of 1%, 2%, and 3%. The second factor were betle leaves concentrations that consisted of three levels in explanation of 3%, 6%, and 9%. The observed characters were analyzed by using F test at the 5% level of error then followed Duncen Multiple Range Test (DMRT). The observed variable is flower freshness period, total volume absorbed when the flower withered, the color flower, the diameter of flower, and the diameter of footstalk.

The results showed that betel leaves concentration 3% can maintained vase life of gerbera flowers to 10,61 days. Combination treatment consisted of 3% sugar levels + 300 ppm asam sitrat + 3% betel leaves concentration can extend vase life of gerbera flowers to 11,83 days.