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SURVEY ON THE POST HARVEST HANDLING PRACTICES OF THE CUTFLOWER GROWERS IN TAGAYTAY CITY AND SILANG, CAVITE

RESEARCH STUDY APPLIED RESEARCH IV

AMEA WIZZA S. VIAÑA

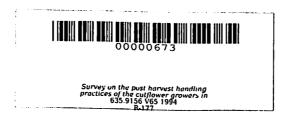
DON SEVERINO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE Indang, Cavite

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SURVEY ON THE POST HARVEST HANDLING PRACTICES OF THE CUTFLOWER GROWERS IN TAGAYTAY CITY AND SILANG, CAVITE

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AMEA WIZZA S. VIANA
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ABSTRACT

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Adviser: Dr. Luzviminda A. Rodrin

This study aimed to: 1) determine the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents; 2) describe the post harvest handling practices of the cutflower growers in Tagaytay City and Silang, Cavite; 3) determine the problems encountered in using these practices; and 4) determine the relationship between post harvest handling practices and some socio-economic characteristics such as age, educational attainment, income and experience in farming.

Two municipalities of Cavite were selected as research areas for this study. These were Tagaytay City and Silang Cavite. The sample composed of fifty respondents selected through systematic random sampling.

The average age of cutflower growers was 41.48 years. Majority of the growers were able to reach the intermediate level. The mean year of experience in farming of the respondents was 8.86 years. The average farm size stated was 3,487.87 sq. meters.

Most of the growers stated that growing flowers gave additional income to them. Combination of handling and

marketing was the most common post harvest handling practices employed by the growers.

Two methods of selling cutflowers were used by the growers. These were wholesaling and retailing.

The chi-square test of association was used to analyze the data gathered. It was found out that educational attainment and experience in farming had significant relationship with post harvest handling practices. Other variables such as age and income were not related to post harvest handling practices.

The major problems encountered by growers were low harvest, lack of technical know-how, competition among growers, price fluctuation and small farm size.

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SURVEY ON THE POST HARVEST HANDLING PRACTICES $\begin{tabular}{ll} OF CUTFLOWER GROWERS & IN TAGAYTAY CITY \\ AND SILANG, CAVITE $\frac{1}{2}$ \end{tabular}$

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AMEA WIZZA S. VIANA

LA reseach work presented to the faculty of the Don Severino Agricultural College, Indang, Cavite in partial fulfillment of the requirements in Applied Research IV under the supervision of Dr. Luzviminda A. Rodrin.

Chapter I

THTRODUCTION

In the Philippines, the cutflower trade is still blooming. The demand for cutflowers is at its peak during Valentine's Day, All Saint's Day, May Festival and Christmas. Weddings, funerals and graduations are considered incomplete without flowers, which give the spirit of celebrations a very big lift. Hence, there is a continuous demand for cutflowers.

One of the major problems in cutflower business is how to keep them fresh a longer time. The keeping quality of cutflower is affected by the genetic constitution and preand post-harvest conditions. There are certain characteristics which are inherent to the variety and