

SRI LANKA STANDARD 367:1975
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**STANDARD CODE OF PRACTICE FOR
HARVESTING AND HANDLING
OF ANTHURIUMS**

BUREAU OF CEYLON STANDARDS

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OF ANTHURIUMS**

SLS 367:1975

Gr. 3



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BUREAU OF CEYLON STANDARDS

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This Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract.

SRI LANKA STANDARD CODE OF PRACTICE FOR HARVESTING AND HANDLING OF ANTHURIUMS

FOREWORD

This Sri Lanka Standard Code of Practice was prepared by the Drafting Committee of the Bureau on Cut Flowers. It was approved by the Agricultural and Chemicals Divisional Committee of the Bureau of Ceylon Standards and was authorised for adoption and publication by the Council of the Bureau on 1975-12-03.

The standard values given in this code are in metric units.

1 SCOPE

This code of practice recommends requirements to be observed in the harvesting, storing, packaging and transport of anthuriums.

2 TERMINOLOGY

For the purpose of this standard the following terms shall apply:

- 2.1 **spathe:** Large petal-like modified leaf.
- 2.2 **spadix:** Spike with a swollen fleshy axis.
- 2.3 **nodules:** Small protrusions appearing on the spadix.

3 HARVESTING REQUIREMENTS

3.1 At the time of harvest, anthuriums shall be whole and shall as far as practicable be fresh and brightly coloured. They shall be free from all visible disfiguration.

3.2 The spadix shall preferably be reclining for easy and safe packing and be slightly shorter than the spathe.

3.3 The length of the stalk shall as far as practicable be in proportion to the spathe i.e. spathes which are not less than 115 mm in length should have a minimum stalk length of 500 mm and spathes not greater than 90 mm in length should have a minimum stalk length of 250 mm while spathes of intermediate length i.e. between 90 mm and 115 mm in length shall have a minimum stalk length of 380 mm.

3.4 Anthuriums shall be harvested when they are well matured i.e. about 8 to 12 days after the bud has completely unfurled. The correct level of maturity should be determined by the following points:

- a) The flower stalk just below the point of attachment to the spathe shall be hard.
- b) Not less than two thirds of the spadix shall be fully developed i.e. at least two thirds of the spadix shall have protruding nodules which are generally sticky to the touch.

NOTE - *The underdeveloped spadix is smooth.*

3.5 Anthuriums shall preferably be picked early in the morning and put into clean and fresh water once they are picked. Anthuriums should thereafter be made available for packing as early as possible but not later than 48 hours after harvesting.

4 PACKAGING AND TRANSPORT TO DEALER

4.1 Each spathe should be wrapped in a sheet of paper in which a perforation has been made for the spadix. The paper should be large enough to cover the whole spathe and to be folded over behind it.

4.2 Anthuriums should be placed head to stem in a suitable box and each stem should be placed in such a manner so as to prevent any damage to the flowers.

4.2.1 If transporting by train or lorry, wooden boxes should preferably be used.

4.3 Each layer of anthuriums should be separated from the next layer by a sheet of moistened paper or other suitable material such as tender leaves.

4.4 Anthuriums should be packed in such a manner that they lie firmly in the box.

4.5 Every precaution should be taken

- a) to prevent direct sunlight playing on the box,
- b) to avoid parking or leaving the vehicle carrying flowers in the sun, and
- c) to avoid storage in a confined space during transport, for example: in a luggage boot.

5 STORAGE REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO PACKAGING FOR EXPORT

The selected anthuriums shall be stored in a clean, cool and well ventilated room reserved for the purpose, free from any type of contamination.

6 PACKAGING FOR EXPORT

Except where instructions are issued by the foreign buyer, the following requirements shall apply:

6.1 Anthuriums shall be packed in boxes of the full telescopic type made of corrugated cardboard. Unless specified otherwise by the buyer, these boxes should not be more than 150 mm in height. Each box should be lined with two or more layers of newsprint or similar material.

6.2 Anthuriums should be dry before they are packed.

6.3 Anthuriums should be placed head to stem in the box and each stem should be placed in such a manner so as to prevent any damage to the flower.

6.4 Each layer of anthuriums should be separated from the next layer by a sheet of paper.

6.5 Each spathe should be wrapped in a sheet of paper, preferably tissue paper, in which a perforation has been made for the spadix. The paper should be large enough to cover the whole spathe and to be folded behind it.

6.6 The end of each stem shall be kept moist by wrapping the end with a wad of cotton wool soaked in clean and fresh water free of chlorine or with a material which will retain its moisture over a fair period of time, and covering with a piece of polythene which should be fastened by suitable means.

6.7 Anthuriums should be packed in such a manner that they lie firmly in the box.

6.8 The lids of the boxes shall be securely placed in position and these boxes shall in turn be collectively packed tightly in a master carton also made of corrugated cardboard. These cartons shall conform in size to the requirements of the buyer and the recommendations of the carrier.

6.8.1 For winter packing, where special instructions are not issued by the buyer, each carton should be lined with five layers of newsprint. Rigifoam may be used if available.

6.9 The cartons shall be sealed using gummed tape.

NOTE - *In instances where a carton is not used, each box shall be sealed using gummed tape.*

7 MARKING FOR EXPORT

In order to facilitate careful handling of the packages such that damage to the flower is minimised, the following markings are recommended:

- a) The words "Fresh cut flowers";
- b) The words "Keep away from extremes of heat or cold";
- c) Pictorial marking for "Perishable goods" (see Fig. 1);
- d) Pictorial marking for "This way up" (see Fig. 2);
- e) The words "Product of Sri Lanka".

The text for the markings should be in English, French and German.

8 TRANSPORT

Packages meant for export should be transported in a sheltered vehicle and kept indoors before despatch.



FIG. 1
Pictorial marking for "perishable goods".

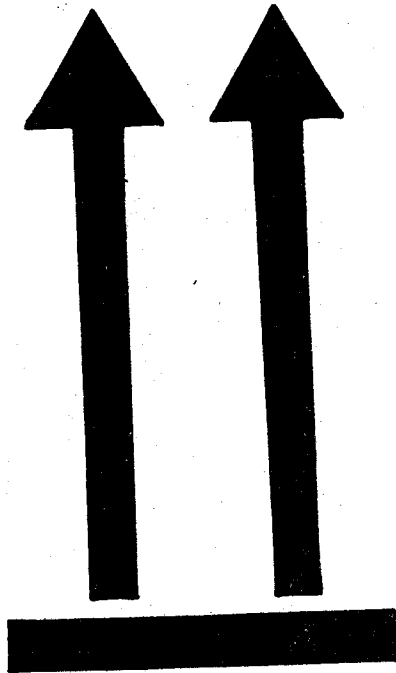


FIG. 2
Pictorial marking for "this way up".

SLS CERTIFICATION MARK

The Sri Lanka Standards Institution is the owner of the registered certification mark shown below. Beneath the mark, the number of the Sri Lanka Standard relevant to the product is indicated. This mark may be used only by those who have obtained permits under the SLS certification marks scheme. The presence of this mark on or in relation to a product conveys the assurance that they have been produced to comply with the requirements of the relevant Sri Lanka Standard under a well designed system of quality control inspection and testing operated by the manufacturer and supervised by the SLSI which includes surveillance inspection of the factory, testing of both factory and market samples.

Further particulars of the terms and conditions of the permit may be obtained from the Sri Lanka Standards Institution, 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08.



SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

The Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) is the National Standards Organization of Sri Lanka established under the Sri Lanka Standards Institution Act No. 6 of 1984 which repealed and replaced the Bureau of Ceylon Standards Act No. 38 of 1964. The Institution functions under the Ministry of Science & Technology.

The principal objects of the Institution as set out in the Act are to prepare standards and promote their adoption, to provide facilities for examination and testing of products, to operate a Certification Marks Scheme, to certify the quality of products meant for local consumption or exports and to promote standardization and quality control by educational, consultancy and research activity.

The Institution is financed by Government grants, and by the income from the sale of its publications and other services offered for Industry and Business Sector. Financial and administrative control is vested in a Council appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The development and formulation of National Standards is carried out by Technical Experts and representatives of other interest groups, assisted by the permanent officers of the Institution. These Technical Committees are appointed under the purview of the Sectoral Committees which in turn are appointed by the Council. The Sectoral Committees give the final Technical approval for the Draft National Standards prior to the approval by the Council of the SLSI.

All members of the Technical and Sectoral Committees render their services in an honorary capacity. In this process the Institution endeavours to ensure adequate representation of all view points.

In the International field the Institution represents Sri Lanka in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and participates in such fields of standardization as are of special interest to Sri Lanka.