

The effectiveness of sucrose- and silver-containing chemicals on prolonging the longevity of cut flowers of 3 *Alstroemeria* cultivars was evaluated. The stems were harvested at the bud stage and kept in deionized water under shade in an open rath house at 20-30°C. Flower stems were immersed to a depth of 15 cm in various solutions (deionized water (control), 4% sucrose, silver thiosulphate complex (STS), 2.5% Chrysal, STS plus 4% sucrose, or 2.5% Chrysal plus 4% sucrose) for 1 h (pulsing) and then transferred into fresh deionized water containing a biocide. The vase life of cut flowers was measured from the end of pulsing until the primary and secondary florets had abscised. Flower stems of Carmen, Pink Perfection and Marina held in deionized water (control) lasted for 21, 19 and 16 d, respectively. Pulsing for 1 h in 4% sucrose solution did not improve vase life in any cultivar. The vase life of Carmen, Pink Perfection and Marina was increased by 8, 7 and 6 d, respectively, when flower stems were pulsed in STS solution. Carmen had the longest vase life in all treatments followed by Pink Perfection and Marina.