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P.230 - QUALITY OF *Heliconia bihai* MAINTAINED IN SOLUTIONS OF PULSING WITH AMINOETHOXYVINYLGLYCINE (AVG) AND SUCROSE

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In this work it was evaluate the combination of different concentration of AVG plus 10% sucrose applied as pulsing solution on the quality and longevity of *Heliconia bihai*. The stems were harvested with two bracts fully open and one closed in commercial garden (Petrolina-PE) and finally stored for 10 days at 22.3 ± 3.2 °C and $43 \pm 11\%$ RH. Than they were pulsed with 0, 1, 2 and 4 mg L⁻¹ of AVG and analyzed at 0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 days. At every two days, the base of the stem was recut, and vase water was changed. The experimental design was arranged in random block, in a factorial of 4 x 7 (doses of AVG x length to analysis) with four replicates containing three stems each. There was increase in the loss of fresh mass and in the color parameters brightness, b*(it indicates the change in the color: - b *, blue to +b*, yellow) and Hue angle of the bracts of *H. bihai* at 10 days of storage. The color parameters a* (it indicates the change in the color: - a *, green to +a*, red) and chroma increased until the four days and after decreased until the ten of storage. The water uptake of the floral stalks decreased until the six days and after it remained reasonably constant. The bracts issue showed a gradual decrease in content of sugars soluble totals, but the sugars of stalk didn't obtain changes during the storage. The process of floral opening increased along the time and the appearance of the inflorescences treated or not with AVG was limited in 8 days of storage. As for the treatments of AVG, the doses of 1, 2 and 4 mg L⁻¹ were not enough in to maintain the quality and to increase the longevity of the inflorescences.