

Proposing Process and Experiment of Drying Roses by Freeze-Drying Method

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ABSTRACT: Roses, both fresh and dried, often appear during festive occasions. However, fresh roses do not last long, and dried flowers are marinated with environmentally unfriendly chemicals. This paper proposes the procedure and experiment of drying roses by the freeze-drying method. After drying by the proposed method, the results show that the rose color changes very slightly but still retains its natural, eye-catching, and environmentally friendly appearance.

KEYWORDS: Rose, Fresh Rose, Dried Rose, Freeze-Drying Method, Natural Color

I. INTRODUCTION

With its beauty, shape, and outstanding fragrance, the rose is one of the most iconic and popular flowers in many countries worldwide. Roses also symbolize the reward of life, soul, heart, love and are often present in many areas of human life, including in art, culture, health, cosmetics, food, and many more products, etc^[1]. Dried roses help enjoy this flower longer, keep deep memories, and even help relax when manually drying^[2]. Five basic ways to dry roses include air drying, desiccant drying, air drying in a vase, drying by microwave, pressing^[2]. Many drying solutions have been presented in an overview, including dry in the air, dry in the sun, dry by embedded, dry by microwave drying, freeze-drying, dry by cryo, press, etc.^{[3][4]}. The investigation of the effect of microwave drying on the quality of four Dutch dried roses was conducted^[5].

II. THE FREEZE-DRYING PROCESS

Figure 1 presents the schematic diagram of the operating principle of freeze-drying equipment in the research.

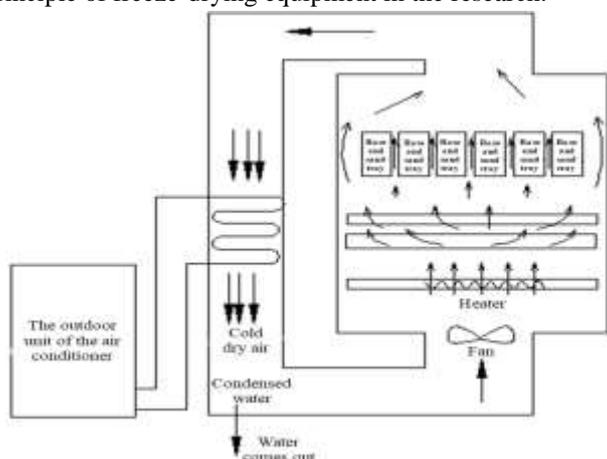


Figure 1. The schematic diagram of the operating principle of freeze-drying equipment

In this study, the freeze-drying process for the roses is described as follows:

- Fresh roses are picked in the morning when the sun makes the flowers almost no water on the surface;
- After harvesting, gently shake or use a fan to blow gently or dry at 100–110 °C to reach moisture about 75–85 %^{[6][7][8]};
- Before freeze-drying, cover with a layer of sand in the tray, put the roses in the tray, cover sand for all the roses in the tray, and put in the dryer equipment;
- Perform freeze-drying at 45–50 °C;
- After freezing-dry, the moisture content of roses is about 8–12 %^{[6][7][9][10][11][12]};

III. EQUIPMENT AND EXPERIMENT

The experimentally fabricated freeze-drying equipment is shown in Figure 2.





Figure 2. Pictures of the experimentally fabricated freeze-drying equipment

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The image of roses after freeze-drying is shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3. Image of roses after freeze-drying method

Figure 3 shows the color has the slight variation from the original color, but still retains the natural, can meet the user's needs. To overcome that variation, it is necessary to do a lot of research on roses' structure and biochemical properties, which requires a combination of many related fields.

CONCLUSIONS

The paper presents the drying process for roses and experiments with the freeze-drying method. Before drying

with the proposed solution, the research has carried out sand coating for drying objects. After freezing-drying, the roses still retain shape and color almost naturally. At the same time, this drying solution saves a lot of drying time, providing products that can be stored for a long time and are environmentally friendly.

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