

# Chrysanthemum

## Post Harvest Technology

### Grading :

Chrysanthemums are graded based on the stem length, flower appearance, number of flowers, stem straightness, colour and freshness of flowers. **Standard** chrysanthemum are graded into Blue, Red, Green and Yellow, whereas **spray** types are graded into Gold, Silver and Bronze based on the quality parameters. In Dutch market, **spray** chrysanthemums are graded into extra grade and shorter grade. The lower leaves are stripped off upto 15-20 cm and bundled in units of 5 stems and secured with a rubber band.

### Export Standards for Chrysanthemum

Parameters	Standard	Spray	Dwarf
Stem length	88-100cm.	77-88cm.	25-38cm.
Weight	30g/stem of 90cm.	30g/stem of 85cm.	30g/stem of 30cm.
No. of flowers	Only 1flower with 5 buds.	10 flowers.	10-12 flowers.
Diameter	60-80mm.	35mm for half bloom. 45m m for full bloom.	30mm.

### Packaging :

Most of the **Standard** chrysanthemums are placed in sleeves and packed in display boxes measuring 91 x 43 x 15cm. They are placed in the boxes according to the grades. For bulk packing of the **spray** chrysanthemums, 10, 15 or 20 stems are placed in sleeves according to the grades. Six sleeves, three at each end, are generally packed in each box, measuring 80 x 50 x 23cm.

### Cold Storage :

The stems in the buckets (after grading) are given a cut using sharp blade and precooled at 1°C minimum of 2 hours before packing. Chrysanthemum can be stored for 3-6 weeks period at 0-3°C.