

Growing Temperatures Are Extremely Critical During Short Days or in Dark Weather

This fall and early winter period has been one of the darkest in many years in Colorado. With decreased light, several temperature effects become more obvious.

The grower who runs his temperatures too warm will begin to get weak stems, but his flowers will have good color. The grower who is running his temperatures too low will have stockier growth, but the flowers will have poor color.

Red and Pink Sim are the two varieties grown in quantity today which have extreme temperature sensitivity where flower color is concerned. From several years of observations, 50 or 51°F. is about the absolute

minimum temperature for good color on these varieties in Colorado. 52° may be better. The day temperature should be eight or ten degrees higher. When these varieties have been grown colder, even with relatively good winter light, colors have been faded and the flowers hollow centered. We know far too little about these critical temperatures. We can see a lot of differences in color from one greenhouse to another. The temperature registered on your thermometers may not be accurate. They are easily checked with an ice water bath. Maintaining correct temperatures is too important to put off checking your thermometers and the temperature variations within your greenhouses.

*Your editor,
W. B. Holley*

Purchasing Value of the Dollar 1939 = \$1.00			
1954	52¢	1948	57¢
1953	52¢	1947	62¢
1952	52¢	1946	71¢
1951	53¢	1945	78¢
1950	56¢	1944	79¢
1949	59¢	1943	80¢