

## *The Effect of Cutting Method on Timing of Second Crop*

Low cutting of the first crop of carnations did not delay the second crop on either bench. This is best illustrated by the graph in figure 1. This typical production curve for single pinched plants shows return crops for the three cutting

methods reaching peak production in February. The great difference, however, is that peak production continued longer from the plants whose first crop had been cut higher.

### EFFECT OF CUTTING METHOD ON PRODUCTION OF FANCY FLOWERS

The carnations produced by both benches were combined into the product of the three cutting treatments. The percentages of fancy flowers from each treatment are shown in figure 2. It is interesting to note that when stem length was adequate (low cutting treatment) only 37 to 38 per cent of the flowers cut from August 16 to October 10 could be graded fancy. The rest of the flower heads were not of the fancy grade, when graded strict-

ly. This percentage jumped sharply to 80 per cent with cooler temperatures in October.

Beginning with the November 8 period, the percentage of fancy flowers followed a similar pattern for all treatments. The return crop from high cutting contained almost the same percentage of fancy blooms as that from the low cutting treatment even though the plant load of actual flowers produced was 25 per cent greater.

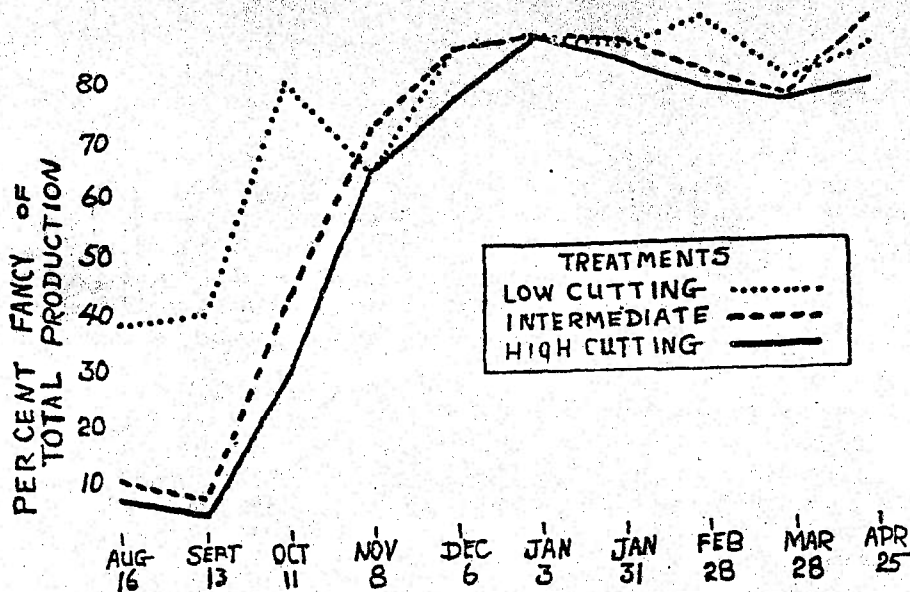


Fig. 2. The distribution of fancy carnations resulting from three cutting methods.

### Night Temperature for Roses

James Boodley, Roses, Inc. Fellow at Penn State, presented some very interesting results on rose temperatures at the Pennsylvania Florist Conference. Mr. Boodley presented data to show that lowering night temperatures to 55 degrees after cloudy days in winter is not beneficial to four varie-

ties of roses. The keeping quality was not greatly improved, and the lowering of temperature delayed flowering. Watch for his complete report in the Roses, Inc. Bulletin. In the meantime, a steady night temperature, regardless of the weather, seems best.

Your editor,

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