ABSTRACT

The effects of pruning and plant spacing on yield and horticultural characteristics in *Anthurium andraeanum* (Hort.).

Keisha Denise Campbell

The yield, quality and marketability of harvested *Anthurium andraeanum* (Hort.) cut-flowers are critical to the sustainability of an anthurium enterprise. This study focused on the effects of three pruning levels (two, three and 6 leaves/plant) and plant spacings (0.23 m x 0.23 m and 0.30 m x 0.30 m) on the yield and horticultural characteristics of cut-flowers harvested from Honduras, Senator and Midori anthurium plant cultivars.

Honduras plants were cultivated at both plant spacings, whereas the Senator and Midori plants were grown at 0.23 m x 0.23 m. The three anthurium cultivars were subjected to the pruning treatments identified.

On analysis of the data generated in this study, it was found that the pruning treatments used had no significant effect on the yield and horticultural characteristics of cut-flowers from the three cultivars grown at 0.23 m x 0.23 m.

Plant spacing treatments in Honduras resulted in an outcome of higher yield per area when grown at the closer plant spacing of 0.23 m x 0.23 m. The pruning of Honduras plants to three and 6 leaves/plant resulted in the production of the longest peduncles. In the Honduras plots, interactions between plant spacing and pruning had significant effects on both yield per area and yield per plant, spathe length and spadix length responses.

Keywords: *Anthurium andraeanum* (Hort.), pruning, plant spacing, yield, horticultural, cultivars.