Ben Dill
Horticulture, CFANS, 2009
Mentor: Neil O. Anderson, Dept. of Environmental Horticulture

Consecutive Blooming Technique in Hippeastrum X hybridum cultivars 'Apple Blossom,' 'Aphrodite,' 'Dancing Queen,' 'Lady Jane,' and 'Pasadena'

Amaryllis (*Hippeastrum* X *hybridum*) is a bulbous plant cultivated for its large, showy flowers and economic value. Maximizing bloom number over a season is of utmost importance to commercial growers. A technique proposed by hobbyist Bill Warren to induce consecutive blooming by heating bulbs in hot water was tested unsuccessfully in spring 2007. The present experiment's objective was to retest the technique using refined methods, including control of water temperature, measurement of internal bulb temperature and timing of bulb treatments. Bulbs are currently in a second bloom cycle, thus no finalized data has been obtained. Premature results indicate more consecutive blooming in the control group than the treatments. All bulbs lose aesthetic value upon treatment. Possible causes for ineffectiveness include timing of treatment, growing conditions, and temperature of hot water treatment.

Poster Number: Session: