Effect of Cooling Delays on Quality Attribute of Globe Artichoke During Cold Storage.

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Abstract

Artichoke heads of the cultivar "French Hyrious" were harvested at the suitable maturity stage of marketing with a dimension of (7-12 cm) on 14th and 16th of February in 2017 and 2018 seasons, respectively from Borg El-arab farm, Behera Governorate and shifted to the laboratory of Vegetable Handling Research Department, Horticultural Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center. To study the effect of cooling delay treatments for 2, 4 and 6 hr. from harvest compared with uncooled treatment (control) on quality attributes of artichoke heads during storage at 0°C. Results showed that all cooling delay treatments reduced weight loss percentage and maintained head compactness as compared with uncooled during storage. Cooling delay for 2 hr. after harvest was the most effective treatment for maintaining quality and storability of head, which gave the lowest value of weight loss %, maintained ascorbic acid content and TSS %, delay color change and gave heads with good appearance for 28 days of storage at 0°C. However, the allowable maximum for cooling delay between harvest quality and gave good appearance after 28 days of storage at 0°C. Non cooled treatment rated poor appearance at the end of storage (28 days at 0°C).

Key words: Globe artichoke heads, Cooling delays, cold storage, Artichoke quality.

Introduction

Globe artichoke (*Cynara scolymus* L.) is considered as one of the important vegetable crops for local consumption and export in Egypt. The nutraceutical properties of artichokes are mainly due to its high polyphenolic content (Azzini *et al.*, 2007), which can be up to 2% of the fresh weight (Mileo *et al.*, 2012), and the presence of fructan inulin that has been reported to have a prebiotic function that stimulates the growth of intestinal bifidobacteria (Salazar *et al.*, 2015 and Lavermicocca *et al.*, 2016).

However, artichoke is a highly perishable commodity, characterized by rapid rates of respiration and water loss (Kader, 1992). The main factors of artichoke heads quality degradation during prolonged storage are mostly due to decay development shriveling, associated with rapid water loss, poor external appearance, as well as reduced sensory quality.

Furthermore, at harvest, the temperature of horticulture crop is usually higher than the recommended storage range; thus artichoke heads must be precooled as fast as possible to remove field heat; preferably to 4-5° C (Brecht, 2008).

Postharvest cooling rabidly removes field heat, reduces postharvest decay, control development of physiological disorders, improve fruit quality and delay aging or ripening (Shehata and Tariq, 2007).

Decreasing weight loss, retention of firmness, decreasing disease incidence, retain fruit quality during storage and extend the shelf life (Becker and Fricke, 2002). Although a cooling delay sometimes occurs in the process from harvest to precooling, little is known about the effect of cooling delay on the fruit quality change. Cantwell and Thangaiah (2012) found that delays to cool reduced visual appearance quality, glossiness and firmness and enhanced water loss and increased visible symptoms of dehydration for bell peppers and eggplants. Also, concluded that for bell peppers, delays to cool should be less than 9 hr. at 20-25°C and less than 6 hr. at 37°C. For eggplants, delays to cool should be less than 6 hr. at 20-25°C and less than 3 hr. at 37°C. Gad El-Rab (2018) found that the allowable maximum for cooling delay after harvest of snap bean pods was 4 hr., which generally did not affect the quality of pods and gave pods with good appearance for 12 days of storage at 5°C + 2 days at 10°C (shelf life) under the experimental conditions.

Therefore, the present investigation was conducted to determine the effect of cooling delays on quality attributes of artichoke head during storage.

Materials and methods

Artichoke marketable heads of the cultivar "French Hyrious" were harvested at the suitable maturity stage of marketing with a dimension of (7-12 cm) on 14th and 16th of February in 2017 and 2018 season respectively from Borg El-arab farm, Behera Governorate and shifted to the laboratory of Vegetable Handling Research Department, Horticultural Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture, A.R.E. Heads were cleaned with dry towels, graded and free from blemishes were selected for storage experiment:

Artichoke heads were hydro-cooled after 2, 4 and 6 hours from harvest. Hydro-cooling was done by dipping the heads in cold water $(0-1^{\circ} C)$ until the

internal temperature of heads reached 2° C which was determined be type-thermocouples inserted into the heads beside non-cooled were used as a control.

After removing the water on the head surface, the artichoke heads from each treatment were packed in polypropylene film ($35 \times 45 \text{ cm}$) of 40 µm thickness and each had three artichoke heads represented as one replicate and then heat sealed. Twelve replicates were prepared for each treatment. The samples were arranged in complete randomized design with three replicates and stored at 0° C and 95% RH for 28 days. Three replicates from each treatment were examined immediately after harvest and every 7 days intervals for the following properties.

Loss in weight percentage calculated by the following equation: Loss in weight % = Loss in weight at the sampling date / the initial weight of the head X100. The general appearance: as evaluated using a scale from 9 to 1, where 9= excellent, 7= good, 5 = fair, 3 = poor and 1 = unsalable heads rating(5) or below were considered as unmarketable, as described by Kader et al. (1973). The compactness: Score rating from 5 to 1, where 5 = tight, 4 = few basal bracts pointing a way from rather than toward tip of bud, 3= several whorls of bracts pointing a way from rather than toward tip of bud, 2= all or most outer bracts open, 1= all outer and more antrally located bracts open. External surface color was evaluated by a color meter (Minolta CR 200) to measure the lightness (L value). Ascorbic acid content (as indicated for vit. C). It was determined (as fresh samples of heads) by titration method using 2, 6 discloro phenol indophenols as described in (Ranganna, 1979).

Statistical analysis

Data were statistically analyzed using the analysis of variance described by Snedecor and Cochran

(1980). The method of Duncan multiple range tests were applied for than comparison between means according to Waller and Duncan (1969).

Results and Discussion

Weight loss percentage

Data in Table (1) showed that weight loss percentage of artichoke heads was increased considerably and consistently with the prolongation of storage period. These results were in agreement with those obtained by (Helaly *et al.*, 2016). The loss in weight may be attributed to respiration and other senescence related metabolic processes during storage (Wills *et al.*, 1981).

Concerning the effect of cooling delays on weight loss percentage, data revealed that all cooling delay treatments significantly reduced weight loss % of artichoke heads as compared with non-cooled during storage. Delaying the precooling for 2 or 4hr. being the most effective treatment for reducing the weight loss % during storage with significant differences between them. Cooling delay for 6hr. was less effective in this concern. Non cooled treatment gave the highest value of weight loss %. These results are agreement with Cantwell and Thangaiah (2012) on bell peppers, eggplant and melons; Kitazawa et al. (2013) on strawberry; Saad (2013) on broccoli florets and Gad El-Rab (2018) on snap bean found that loss in weight was negatively affected by delaying the precooling of strawberries fruits, when the precooling was delayed for 6 or 8hr., the fruits showed significantly more shriveling and weight loss % than in fruits that were promptly cooled. Also, Li et al., (2015) found that the delay from harvest to cool may increase respiration rate and metabolic activity, which in turn increase weight loss % during storage.

 Table 1. Effect of cooling delays on weight loss percentage of artichoke heads during storage in 2017 and 2018 season.

Treatments						
	Start	7	14	21	28	means
			2017 season			
After 2 hours	0.00 I	0.72 HI	2.26 FG	2.98 EF	3.43 E	1.88 D
After 4 hours	0.00 I	1.57GH	3.44 E	3.73 DE	5.51 C	2.85 C
After 6 hours	0.00 I	1.82 G	3.75 DE	4.63 CD	7.37 B	3.52 B
Control	0.00 I	2.46 FG	4.86 C	8.17 B	10.19A	5.14 A
means	0.00 E	1.64 D	3.58 C	4.88 B	6.62 A	
			2018 season			
After 2 hours	0.00 P	0.83 O	2.37 L	3.09 J	3.54 I	1.97 D
After 4 hours	0.00 P	1.68 N	3.55 I	3.84 H	5.62 D	2.94 C
After 6 hours	0.00 P	2.04 M	3.97 G	4.85 F	7.59 C	3.69 B
Control	0.00 P	2.68 K	5.08 E	8.39 B	10.41 A	5.31 A
means	0.00 E	1.81 D	3.74 C	5.04 B	6.79 A	

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

In general, the interaction between cooling delays and storage periods on weight loss% was significant during all storage periods in the two seasons. After 28 days of storage, data showed that the lowest value of weight loss percentage was observed in delaying

precooling for 2 or 4 hr. with significant differences between them in the two seasons.

General appearance (GA)

Data in Table (2) revealed that there was significant reduction in GA with the prolongation of storage period. Similar results were reported by (Nobile *et al.*, 2009).

Regarding the effect of cooling delays on GA, data revealed that significant differences in appearance were found among cooling delays on artichoke heads during storage. The GA of heads with delay the precooling for 2, 4 or 6hr. was better than non-cooled. The 2 or 4hr. cooling delay were more effective treatments for maintenance GA with no significant differences between them during storage in the two seasons. These results are in agreement with Makwana *et al.* (2014) who found that precooling decreases the metabolic activities of harvested produce such as respiration rate and ethylene production ; thus delays the ripening, senescence, decreasing weight loss, retention of firmness, decreasing disease incidence, retain fruit quality during storage and extend the shelf life. Also,**Saad** (**2013**) who found that GA of broccoli florets cooled immediately after harvest was good appearance than those cooled after 6 hr. delay after 21 days of storage at 0° C plus 2 days at 10° C. Li *et al.* (2015), on tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers, found that delaying the precooling of product resulted in less attractive and loss of quality characteristics, while those cooled immediately after harvest gave good appearance during storage. Cantwell and Thangaiah (2012) found that decreased general appearance with increased cooling delays was associated with increased dehydration and decay scores and decreases in whole fruit firmness and gloss scores of bell peppers, eggplants and melons.

In general, the interaction between cooling delays and storage period was significant, a 2 or 4 hr. delay in hydro-cooling after harvest had the best appearance, which give product with good appearance after 28 days in the two seasons. On the other hand, non-cooled treatment rated poor appearance at the end of storage (28 days).

 Table 2. Effect of cooling delays on general appearance (score) of artichoke heads during storage in 2017 and 2018 season.

Treatmonta	Storage period in days						
Treatments	Start	7	14	21	28	means	
	2017 season						
After 2 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	9.00 A	8.33 AB	7.67 BC	8.60 A	
After 4 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.00 CD	7.00 CD	8.20 A	
After 6 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.67 BC	6.33 DE	5.67 EF	7.53 B	
Control	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.00 CD	5.00 FG	3.33 G	6.67 C	
means	9.00 A	9.00 A	8.17 B	6.67 C	5.92 D		
	2018 season						
After 2 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.67 AB	7.67 AB	8.47 A	
After 4 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	8.33 AB	7.00 BC	7.00 BC	8.07 A	
After 6 hours	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.67 AB	5.67 CD	3.67 EF	7.00 B	
Control	9.00 A	9.00 A	7.00 BC	5.00 DE	2.00 D	6.40 B	
means	9.00 A	9.00 A	8.00 B	6.33 C	5.09 D		

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

Compactness

Data in Table (3) showed that compactness (score) of artichoke heads was decreased with the prolongation of storage period. These results were in agreement with (Atala, 2006). Concerning the effect of cooling delays on compactness of artichoke heads, data revealed that all cooling delay treatments significantly maintained head compactness as compared with non-cooled treatment during storage in the two seasons. The highest values of heads compactness score were obtained by all cooling delay treatments (2, 4 and 6hr.) with no significant differences between them in the two seasons. On the other hand, the lowest values were recorded in non-cooled heads (control).

As for the interaction between cooling delay treatments and storage period, data showed that precooling delays for 2, 4 or 6hr. had higher compactness score with nosignificant differences between them compared with non-cooled treatment after 28 days of storage.

Tuesta							
Treatments	Start	7	14	21	28	means	
	2017 season						
After 2 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.00 B	4.80 A	
After 4 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.00 B	4.80 A	
After 6 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.00 B	4.80 A	
Control	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.00 B	3.33 C	3.00 D	4.07 B	
means	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.75 B	4.58 C	3.75 D		
	2018 season						
After 2 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.67 AB	3.67 BC	4.67 A	
After 4 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.67 AB	3.67 BC	4.67 A	
After 6 hours	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.67 AB	4.67 AB	3.33 C	4.53 A	
Control	5.00 A	5.00 A	3.67 BC	3.00 C	2.00 D	3.70 B	
means	5.00 A	5.00 A	4.58 AB	4.25 B	3.17 C		

 Table 3. Effect of cooling delays on compactness (score) of artichoke heads during storage in 2017 and 2018 season.

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

Color

Changes in lightness (L value) were observed during storage compared to initial value. Lightness of artichoke heads was affected by storage time. A decrement in L value was detected by prolonging the storage period (Table 4), resulted darker color. Concerning cooling delay treatments, data show that there were significant differences among cooling delay treatments. All cooling delays gave the highest value of L value as compared with non-cooled. Delaying precooling for 2 or 4 hr. being the most effective treatment in maintaining the L values, resulted in lighter color with no significant differences between them in the first season, while non-cooled treatment give the lowest value of L value during storage, resulted in darker color. These results were achieved in the two seasons and are in agreement with Yettella *et al.* (2010) who found that long postharvest cooling delay and duration negatively affected broccoli color. Also, Saad (2013) found that cooling delay for 6 hr. resulted in broccoli sprout with significantly lower L value than promptly precooled product. These color changes may be a consequence of the greater moisture loss and over ripeness of the fruit from the delayed treatment (Nunes *et al.*, 1995).

Table 4.	. Effect of cooling	delays on color ((L value) of artichoke	heads during storage in 2017 a	nd 2018 season.
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Treatmonte						
Treatments	Start	7	14	21	28	means
			2017 season			
After 2 hours	50.61 A	45.15 B	41.07 CD	39.34 DE	35.30 FG	42.29 A
After 4 hours	50.61 A	44.00 BC	41.25 CD	37.11 EF	33.40 GH	41.28 AB
After 6 hours	50.61 A	43.67 BC	39.61 DE	35.20 FG	31.60 H	40.14 B
Control	50.61 A	41.84 BD	39.05 DE	32.20 GH	25.20 I	37.78 C
means	50.61 A	43.67 B	40.25 C	35.96 D	31.38 E	
			2018 season			
After 2 hours	50.21 A	43.95 B	39.87 EF	38.14 G	34.10 K	41.25 A
After 4 hours	50.21 A	42.80 C	40.05 E	35.91 J	32.20 M	40.23 B
After 6 hours	50.21 A	41.57 D	37.51 H	33.10 L	29.50 O	38.38 C
Control	50.21 A	39.44 F	36.95 I	30.10 N	23.10 P	35.96 D
means	50.21 A	41.94 B	38.60 C	34.31 D	29.73 E	

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

Changes in hue angle values of artichoke heads are good indicator of senescence. As shown in Table (5) showed that the hue angle values of artichoke heads gradually decreased as the storage period extended indicating that artichoke heads turned to slight yellow as the storage period prolonged. These results were true in the two seasons and were an agreement with (Atala, 2006). Concerning the effect of cooling delay treatments on hue angle values, data showed that all cooling delays gave the highest value of h° value as compared with non-cooled. Delaying precooling of artichoke heads for 2 or 4 hr. were more green color of heads (higher value of hue angle) as compared to cooling delay for 6 hr. during storage in the two seasons. On the other hand, non-cooled treatment gave the lower value of hue angle as an important degreening or intense yellowing.

Treatments						
	Start	7	14	21	28	means
			2017 season			
After 2 hours	86.31 A	85.21 B	84.31 D	82.51 F	81.67 H	84.00 A
After 4 hours	86.31 A	85.00 C	83.00 E	80.24 I	79.22 J	82.75 B
After 6 hours	86.31 A	82.11 G	80.24 I	77.21 L	74.11 M	80.00 C
Control	86.31 A	80.23 I	78.11 K	73.31 N	70.23 O	77.64 D
means	86.31 A	83.14 B	81.42 C	78.32 D	76.31 E	
			2018 season			
After 2 hours	92.32 A	91.30 B	90.40 C	89.11 E	87.20 G	90.07 A
After 4 hours	92.32 A	90.00 D	88.20 F	86.24 I	86.40 H	88.63 B
After 6 hours	92.32 A	87.21 G	85.21 K	82.00 L	80.00 N	85.35 C
Control	92.32 A	86.00 J	81.11 M	78.23 O	75.32 P	82.60 D
means	92.32 A	88.63 B	86.23 C	83.89 D	82.23 E	

Table 5. Effect of cooling delays on color (hue angle h[°]) of artichoke heads during storage in 2017 and 2018 season.

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

Ascorbic acid content

Data in Table (6) showed that ascorbic acid content of artichoke heads was significantly decreased with the prolongation of storage period. Similar results were obtained by (Atala, 2006).

As cooling delay treatments, data found that there were significant differences between cooling delay treatments and non-cooled of heads. However, cooling delay for 2hr. after harvest was effective on preventing ascorbic acid degradation during storage as compared with precooling delay for 4 or 6hr. with significant differences between them. The lowest values of ascorbic acid content resulted from noncooled treatment. These results were in agreement with Nunes *et al.* (1995) and Kitazawa *et al.* (2013) on strawberries.

For the interaction between cooling delay treatments and storage period after 28 days of storage, data revealed that delaying precooling for 2hr. was being the most effective treatments in maintaining ascorbic acid content as compared to the other cooling delays or non-cooled.

 Table 6. Effect of cooling delays on ascorbic acid content (mg/100gm f.w.) of artichoke heads during storage in 2017 and 2018 season.

Tucchucanta	Storage period in days						
Ireatments	Start	7	14	21	28	means	
	2017 season						
After 2 hours	85.80 A	84.00 A	82.13AB	76.67AD	77.87AC	81.29 A	
After 4 hours	85.80 A	81.20 AB	75.07 AE	68.33 BF	60.13 EG	74.11 B	
After 6 hours	85.80 A	81.20 AB	74.67 AE	61.67 DF	54.27 FG	71.52 B	
Control	85.80 A	72.80 AE	63.47 CF	53.33 FG	40.47 H	63.17 C	
means	85.80 A	79.80AB	73.83 B	65.00 C	58.68 D		
			2018 season				
After 2 hours	83.20 A	81.60 AB	79.73 AC	74.27 CE	75.47 BE	78.85 A	
After 4 hours	83.20 A	78.80 AD	72.67 DE	55.93 FG	57.73 F	69.67 B	
After 6 hours	83.20 A	78.20 AD	71.67 E	58.67 F	51.27 G	68.60 B	
Control	83.20 A	69.80 E	60.47 F	50.33 G	37.47 H	60.25 C	
means	83.20 A	77.10 B	71.14 C	59.80 D	55.49 E		

Means in the same column having the same letter are not significantly different at 0.05 levels by Duncan's multiple rang test.

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تأثير تأخير التبريد المبدئي على صفات الجودة لنورات الخرشوف خلال التخزين المبرد.

صلاح الدين أحمد محمدين, محسن السيد محمد سعد, شيرين عطا عطا الله, إبتسام حميده عيسى عفيفى معهد بحوث البسانين –مركز البحوث الزراعية بالجيزة.

تم جمع نورات الخرشوف صنف French Hyrious فى مرحلة القطف المناسبة للتسويق (قطر 7–12 سم) فى 14، 16 فبراير سنة 2017 ، 2018 على التوالى من مزرعة برج العرب محافظة البحيرة ثم نقلت الى معمل بحوث تداول الخضر – معهد بحوث البساتين – مركز البحوث الزراعية لدراسة تأثير التأخير فى إجراء التبريد المبدئى بعد (2, 4 ، 6 ساعات) من الحصاد بالمقارنة مع النورات غير المبردة (المقارنة) على صفات الجودة والقدرة التحزينية لنورات الخرشوف خلال التخزين على صفر⁰م لمدة 28 يوم0 تثير النتائج أن كل معاملات تأخير التبريد المبردة خلال التخزين. على صفر⁰م لمدة 28 يوم0 تثير النتائج أن كل معاملات تأخير التبريد أدت إلى تقليل نسبة فقد الوزن كما حافظت على أندماج النورات وكمية فيتامين ج ونسبة المواد الصلبة الذائبة مقارنة بالنورات غير المبردة خلال أدت إلى تقليل نسبة فقد الوزن كما حافظت على أندماج النورات وكمية فيتامين ج ونسبة المواد الصلبة الذائبة مقارنة بالنورات غير المبردة خلال أنتخزين. تأخير التبريد المبدئى لمدة 2 ساعة كان أكثر فاعيلية فى المحافظة على الجودة والقدرة التخزينية لنورات الخرشوف حيث أعطت أقل أنتخزين. تأخير التبريد المبدئى لمدة 2 ساعة كان أكثر فاعيلية فى المحافظة على الجودة والقدرة التخزينية لنورات الخرشوف حيث أعطت أقل التخزين. تأخير التبريد المبدئى لمدة 2 ساعة كان أكثر فاعيلية فى المحافظة على الجودة والقدرة التخزينية لنورات الخرشوف حيث أعطت أقل التخزين. تأخير التبريد المبدئى لمدة 2 ساعة كان أكثر فاعيلية فى المحافظة على الجودة والقدرة التخزينية لنورات الخرشوف حيث أعطت أقل التخزين. تأخير التبريد المبدئى لمدة 2 ساعة كان أكثر فاعيلية فى المحافظة على الجودة والقدرة التخزينية لنورات الخرشوف مي ألقلت ألقل التخزين. على درجة صفر[°]م , يمكن إعتبار أن اقصى وقت مسموح به لتأخير التبريد المبدئى بعد الحصاد لنورات الخرشوف هو لا ساعت وهى التخزين على من ما منورات الخرشوف هو 4 ساعات وهى التخزين على درجة صفر[°]م , يمكن إعتبار أن اقصى وقت مسموح به لتأخير التبريد المبدئى بعد الحصاد لنورات الخرشوف هو 4 ساعات وهى التخزين على درجة صفر[°]م , يمكن إعتبار أن اقصى وقت مسموح به لتأخير التبريد على درجة صفر[°]م , معمل مالمبدة الفترة التى لم تؤثر على صفر[°]م , موم من التخزين على مالقررات بعلى مالمبدة علي المبردة ألفرم ، أعطت المبدة عير المبردة القررة القررة مالمبدة الفر