Stage of development for harvest of numerous cut flower species.

Table obtained from *Floriculture Principles and Species* (Dole and Wilkins, 2004).

Name Stage of Development

*Ageratum houstonianum* center floret fully open, lateral florets well colored

*Agrostemma githago* 1 to 2 flowers open

*Allium* cultivars 1/4 to ½ florets open

*Amaranthus caudatus* Fresh: 3/4 of florets open, dry: allow all flowers to grow seed and inflorescence to become firm

*Ammi majus* 80% of flowers in umbel open

*Antirrhinum majus* 1/3 flowers open

*Asclepias tuberosa* 1/2 to 2/3 flowers open

*Buddleia davidii* 25 to 75% of buds open but lower florets not yet fading

*Bupleurum* *rotundifolium* almost all flowers fully open

*Calendula officinalis* fully open flowers

*Celosia argentea* inforescence fully colored but prior to significant seed formation

*Centaurea cyanus*  apical flower 3/4 to fully open

*Consolida ambigua* 2 to 5 florets open

*Cosmos bipinnatus* petals on apical flower opening but not yet flat

*Dahlia* cultivars 3/4 to fully open flowers

*Delphinium* cultivars 1/4 to 1/3 florets open

*Dianthus barbatus* 10 to 20% of florets open

*Echinacea purpurea* petals fully expanded, first ring of disk florets open

*Eustoma grandiflorum* one or more open flowers and basal buds showing color

*Forsythia* *intermedia* buds show color for immediate use, stems with tight buds are harvested for forcing

*Gladiolus* cultivars lower 2 buds showing color

*Gomphrena* cultivars flower heads large and rounded but not yet elongated

Grains seed heads are full size but before seeds are mature

*Helianthus annuus* flowers almost fully open

*Hydrangea* species 1/2 florets open

*I. hollandica* before falls reflex, ‘pencil’ stage

*L. sinuatum* almost fully open developed bracts, white flower petals visible

*Monarda didyma* one ring of florets open and others fully colored

*Nigella* species flower fully colored but petals not yet totally separated from center for fresh or pods mature and well colored drying

*Paeonia* cultivars buds first show color and are medium firm to soft

*Polianthes tuberosa* 2 to 4 flowers open

*Rudbeckia* cultivars fully open flowers and first ring of disk florets open

*Salvia leucantha* white flower petals visible on lower 3 to 4 flowers

*Solidago* cultivars 1/2 florets open

*Tulipa gesneriana* half colored buds

*Verbena bonariensis* most florets open

*Zinnia elegans* fully open flowers