



ITC CARNATION PROFILE

We grow and outsource our **Carnations flowers** from ITC verified small and large scale farmers whose farming and handling of product meets the required International Standards.

Our logistics team moves it to our client's doorstep in the UK, Europe and the Middle East.

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INTERSTATE TRADE COMPANY LIMITED

CARNATIONS FARMING

Introduction

A carnation, also known as *Dianthus caryophyllus*, is one of the main cut flowers grown in Kenya for export. Carnations provide the variety to meet the color mix requirements of markets ranging from the Dutch auctions and European supermarkets.



There are three varieties of carnations grown in Kenya, they are;

- Large flowered carnations
- Spray carnations
- Dwarf flowered carnations

Not only are carnations used for decorative purposes but also, they are brewed in teas and utilized in skin-moisturizing beauty products.

Efficiency and Quality is our Definition

VARIETIES

Light red carnations represent admiration.



Dark red denote deep love and affection.



White carnations represent pure love and good luck.



Carnations have grown popular due to their wide variety and bright colours, they are popular for gifting and symbolism in different contexts.

PLANTING

Carnations are planted in an area that gets four to six hours of sunlight per day. They prefer sunlight rather than shade. When planting carnations, we use well-drained soil that is fertile and slightly alkalized (pH 6.7-6.9).



Early stage of growth

Carnations will grow best in temperatures that are 50-65 degrees during the day and 40-50 degrees at night.



Blossom stage

Spacing should be about 6-12 inches apart, add compost manure while planting then mulch to retain moisture and water throughout.



Flowers before harvesting

VARIETIES

Striped (variegated) carnations symbolise regret that love cannot be shared.



Pink carnation symbolize the undying love of a mother.



They are harvested when the outer petals unfold nearly perpendicular to the stems.



HARVESTING

Harvesting is done when color begins to show on the first flower and when four to five flowers open on the first cluster.



The flower is usually harvested during cool weathers in the morning and evening when temperatures are low and plant water content is high.

Hygiene is highly enforced and all tools are disinfected regularly when harvesting.



After harvesting the flowers are placed in cool area, stems are recut under water and the flower placed in low light areas to reduce photosynthesis.

STORAGE



ITC cold room



ITC carnations packaging



Storage facilities at ITC.

STORAGE

Carnations should be stored at low temperatures. Bud harvested flowers perform best in low storage because they are less sensitive to ethylene than mature flowers.



ITC flowers in our cold room facility Nairobi, Kenya.

Carnations are graded and packed based on stem thickness, length and quality of the flower. Our pack house team ensures the flowers are of high quality and free from pests and diseases.



Packed flowers loaded on a cargo plane.

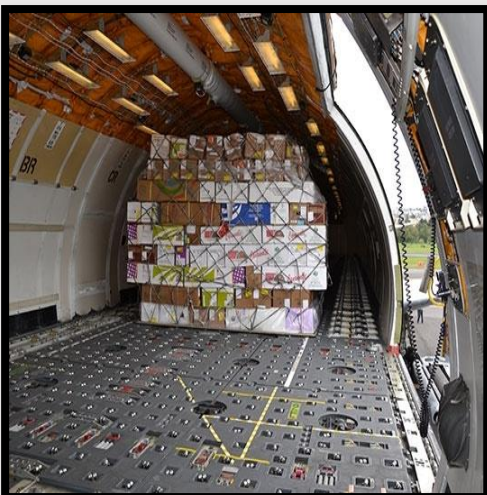
CARNATIONS



ITC agents checking flowers temperature before loading the cargo in the air plane.



Loading of ITC flowers in a cargo plane



ITC flowers cargo packed in a cargo plane.

EXPORT BY AIR

Carnations are exported by air due to their perishability. Most of our flowers are exported to the Netherlands, Europe's flower hub.



ITC flowers cargo being loaded in Martinair plane.

The flowers are exported using special freighters that have refrigeration capabilities boosting our efforts in ensuring our flowers reach their destination fresh.



ITC flowers for export at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

Our team at the airport inspects every shipment before departure at the airport to ensure our standards are met.



Inside a cargo plane at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Nairobi.



Packed carnation flowers for export.



A sample of ITC carnations flower.



Carnations loaded in ITC trucks ready for transportation.

ACCREDITATION

All our products are inspected and certified by all relevant bodies which includes Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Society (KEPHIS) and GLOBAL G.A.P to ensure they are free from pest and diseases and are qualified for the international market.



Ethical Trading Initiative
Respect for workers worldwide



Helping
communities
to build a
better future

