

Title Postharvest drying of Leyland cypress, eastern red cedar, and Fraser fir Christmas trees
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Abstract

Postharvest drying of Leyland cypress [*Cupressocyparis leylandii* (A.B. Jacks. & Dallim.)] branches was intermediate between eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana* L.) and Fraser fir [*Abies fraseri* (Pursh) Poir.] in two laboratory experiments. Leyland cypress rehydrated without adverse effect until xylem pressure potential reached -4.0 to -5.0 MPa (shoot moisture content = 60% to 65%). For branches continuously maintained in water, Fraser fir and Leyland cypress kept equally well over 4 weeks of display, but Leyland cypress lasted longer than Fraser fir over 8 weeks. Postharvest keeping quality of Leyland cypress and Fraser fir was better than that of eastern red cedar.