

## **Bacteria and Botrytis**

Bacteria are the most common reason for stem blockage.

Bacteria reproduce fast. Even faster in warm temperatures.

### **Prevention**

#### **1. Water**

- a. Keep flowers dry to avoid Botrytis.
- b. Do not allow condensation to accumulate in flower sleeves and boxes.
- c. Do not cram flowers into buckets, air flow is important.
- d. Allow any wet blooms to dry before placing into cooler.

#### **2. Cleanliness**

- a. Sweep floors and remove any old, rotting or damaged leaves, stems or flowers from refrigerators.
- b. Remove foliage from stems only below the water level.
- c. Remove debris and stems from buckets and vases
- d. Avoid foliage under water.
- e. Remove any infected leaves, flowers or stems.
- f. Sweep floors empty trash and bins daily.
- g. Clean sinks and counters
- h. Clean buckets
- i. Clean knives, pruners and cutters