

EFFECT OF MEDIA AND UREA ON GROWTH FLOWERING OF PELARGONIUM ZONAL, L. RED AND ROSE CVS .

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted on P . zonal cvs . Red and Rose testing mixture or loam + sand alone or mixed with either foam , dry chips of Eichhornia crassipes (Mort .) solm-Laub . (water haycinth) . , shredded fibrous date palm leaves sheath , peanut hulls , peat moss or sawdust and foliar application of urea at rates of 0.0 , 0.5 or 1.0 % . It was noticed that medium contained 1 sand + 1 loam + 1 dry chips of E . crassipes produced the best growth (plant height , number of branches and dry weight of leaves / plant) and flowering characters (inflorescences stalk length , number of inflorescences / plant and number of florets / inflorescence) with correlated with high total carbohydrate content . This medium showed similar results to that obtained by the medium contained 1 sand + 1 loam + 1 peat moss (v / v) . Hence , it is advisable to use E . crassipes to replace peat moss , since it is locally available at low coast . The high rate of urea application (1.0%) gave the best results of plants growth and flowering particularly with media contained E . crassipes or peat moss .