DETERMINING SUITABLE MIXING RATIOS OF DIFFERENT SUBSTRATES FOR GROWING *Gerbera jamesonii* IN POTTED GERBERA

Do Thi Xuan, Duong Minh Long, Nguyen My Hoa

Summary

Diversifying substrate materials and determining suitable mixing ratios of different materials in growing ornamental plants to reduce cost is needed to improve income for farmers. An objective of the study was to determine suitable mixing ratios of different materials for growing *Gerbera jamesonii* in potted gerbera. From results of the growth, flowering of plant, total number of flowersand the cost of the combined substrates, it is possible to propose the suitable treatments including NT5 (2 sugarcane baggase + 0.5 husk + 1 coir dust + 2 cow dung), NT9 (2 coir dust + 0.5 rice husk + 2 sugarcane bagasseand) and NT10 (2 coir dust + 0.5 husk) as the good combination of substrates for growing *Gerbera jamesonii*. It is suggested that coir dust, bagasse and cow dung can be used at suitable mixing ratios for growing *Gerbera jamesonii*. However, the substrate of NT10 (2 coirdusk + 0.5 rice husk) should be well supplemented with inorganic fertilizer because coir dust has poor nutritional content.

Keywords: *Gerbera jamesonii, sugarcane bagasse, coir dust, substrate materials, cow dung.*