Journal of Agricultural Engineering and Food Technology
p-ISSN: 2350-0085; e-ISSN: 2350-0263; Volume 6, Issue 5; October-December, 2019, pp. 312-312

http://www.krishisanskriti.org/Publication.html

Effect of Various Soilless Media on Growth and Flowering of Gerbera *(Gerbera jamesonii)*

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Abstract—*The present study was conducted to evaluate the effect of soilless media on plant growth and flowering of gerbera var. Lisiecka grown under naturally ventilated greenhouse. Eight growing media, viz., T1- Cocopeat: Perlite: Vermicultite (3:1:1), T2- Sawdust: Biomanure (1:1), T3- Sawdust: Vermicompost(1:1), T4- Cocopeat: Biomanure (1:1), T5-Cocopeat: Vermicompost (1:1), T6-Cocopeat: Sawdust: Vermicompost (1:1:1), T7- Cocopeat: Sawdust: Biomanure (1:1:1) and T8- Soil were filled in grow bags for the above experiment.The experimental results revealed that the earliest appearance of first true leaf in newly transplanted gerbera plants was observed in plants grown on media containing CPV. The maximum number of leaves per plant at first flower appearance (10.50 cm), leaf length (29.02 cm), leaf width (14.73 cm), minimum number of days for first flower bud appearance (84.65 days), earliest flower harvest (102.65 days) were recorded with the treatment T1. The maximum stalk length (38.55cm), stalk diameter (7.22mm) and flower head diameter (9.97 cm) was also observed with the treatment T1. All these findings showed CPV as a better media for growing gerbera under soilless conditions.*