

Growth, development and flower quality of poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) as influenced by nutrient level and plant growth regulation method

Doris P. Quita and Misael T. Diputado, Jr.

*Graduate Teaching Assistant and Associate Professor, Department of Horticulture,
Leyte State University, Visca, Baybay, Leyte, Philippines*

ABSTRACT

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Nutrient application, in general, increased plant size and number of leaves per plant and enhanced dry matter production in plant. Low nitrogen to potassium ratio resulted to the production of shorter internodes and with more intense bract color. Plants applied with high N-K ratio were taller, had longer internodes and bigger bracts.

Paclobutrazol application effectively reduced plant height and internode length. Pinching, on the other hand, reduced plant height but did not reduce internode length. It increased number of leaves per plant. Thus, the combination of paclobutrazol application and low N/K ratio feeding regime produced plants of the best quality.

Keywords: poinsettia, nutrient level, growth regulation, flower quality, paclobutrazol, pinching

Correspondence: M. T. Diputado *Present Address:* Department of Horticulture, Leyte State University, Visca, Baybay, Leyte 6521-A, Philippines.