

An Investigation into of High Level Co₂ Concentration on Anatomical and Morphological Traits in Floss Flower (*Ageratum houstonianum*)

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Abstract

The Floss flower is one of the most important ornamental plants that is cultured as a bedding plant. In this study, anatomical and morphological traits, and earliness of Floss flower transplants were examined. Treatments were 350 $\mu\text{lit lit}^{-1}$ (as control), 700, 1050 and 1400 $\mu\text{lit lit}^{-1}$ CO_2 , with 3 replications, and the experiment was conducted based on completely randomized design and 14 traits were studied. The results indicated that almost all traits were affected by CO_2 concentrations. Particularly at high levels, stem diameter was increased to 50% and plant height was increased 2-fold compared to control. The rate of chlorophyll increased (41.7%) compared to control with 1050 $\mu\text{lit lit}^{-1}$ CO_2 . Also, stomatal density, width and size of stoma, stomatal index, epidermal cells density, and width of cell guard of plants increased at high level of CO_2 . The flowering of plants accelerated 15 days compared to control at 700 $\mu\text{lit lit}^{-1}$ CO_2 .

Keywords: *Floss flower, Co₂, Anatomical traits, Morphological traits.*