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April 1995

Growth Performance of Chrysanthemum Using
Different Mulching Materials Under
Drip Irrigation System

An Undergraduate Thesis

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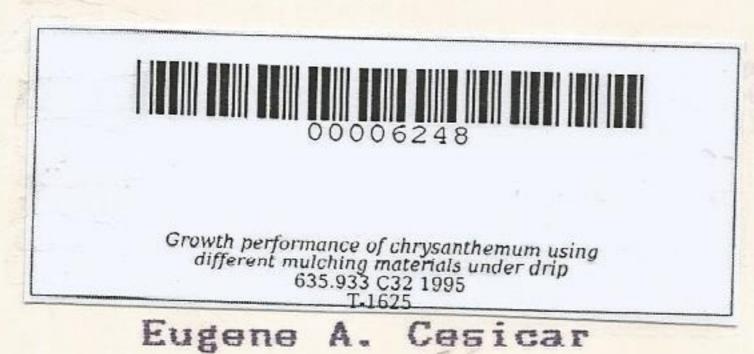
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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted at the Central Experimental Station of the Don Severino Agricultural College, Indang, Cavite from August 22 to November 24, 1994 in order to tetermine the effects of different mulching materials on the performance of chrysanthemum.

Five blocks subdivided to five plots replicated three times were made. The treatment used were:

T1 - covered with coffee pulp;

T2 - covered with rice hull

T3 - covered with newspaper

T4 - covered with rice straw

T5 - uncovered (control)

All were irrigated by means of drip irrigation.

Different mulching materials used influenced the growth performance of chrysanthemum and exhibited different growth pattern of the plants.

The plants covered with coffee pulp favored the growth and development of chrysanthemum in all parameters. Plants covered with rice hull favored only the diameter of the

Tower, number of days from planting to flower bud formation with means of 6.39 cm and 78 days, respectively.

Furthermore, unmulched soil retarded the growth and wield of the chrysanthemum.

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GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF CHRYSANTHEMUM USING DIFFERENT MULCHING MATERIALS UNDER DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM1/

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INTRODUCTION

The ornamental plant (Chrysanthemum morifolium), simply called as mums belongs to the family of compositae which is considered as one of the most in demand cutflowers in the local market or even abroad. It is also known as margarita appera, rosas de japon and manzanilla which has an extraordinary range of beautiful colors namely: yellow, white, purple, pink, red and bronze.

In addition, cutflowers are good source of income when planted on commercial scale and have great potential as an export commodity.

Chrysanthemum will grow in any soil if it is well managed. But, it is better to choose soil with good drainage and aeration in order to prevent weeds and fungal problems. Slightly acidic soil pH of 6.0 to 6.5 is