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Development of compacted medium using heat fusion fiber

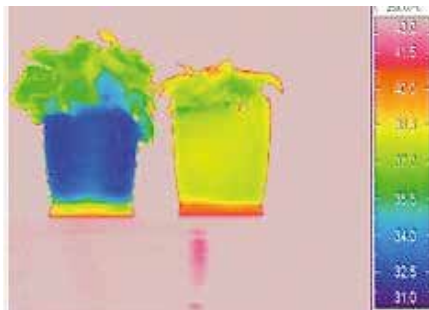


Fig. Medium and leaf temperature in potless culture.
Medium temperature decreased about 7°C.
Leaf temperature decreased about 2°C.

We found that medium could be hardened using heat fusion fiber. We demonstrated that use of hardened medium could enable cell transplants production and bedding plant production without polyethylene pots. Pansy and garden-type cyclamen plants grown in compacted medium without polyethylene pots in the summer season were bigger than those grown in compacted medium with polyethylene pots. The temperature of the medium without polyethylene pots was lower than that with polyethylene pots. This could be due to the evaporative cooling effect from the surface of compacted medium without polyethylene pots.

Improvement of growth and flowering of *Eustoma grandiflorum* by low temperature treatment



It is important to establish a suitable method for rosette avoidance and cost reduction in *Eustoma* seedlings production in summer. We found that intermittent low temperature storage treatment could be available as a supplemental method to prevent rosette of *Eustoma* seedlings after application of low temperature treatment to imbibed seed. However, suitable temperature and cycle have not been clarified. We confirmed that the cycle of 15-15 day stored at 10°C was a suitable treatment to avoid rosette, promote growth and decrease labor for *Eustoma* growing.