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Effect of planting dates and pinching on growth and flowering in African marigold cv. SIRAKOLE

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ABSTRACT : A field experiment on the effect of planting dates and pinching on growth, flowering in African marigold cv. SIRAKOLE was carried out during the period between November, 2007 to June, 2008 with four planting dates and three levels of pinching. November planting resulted in more plant spread (north-south, east-west direction), number of leaves, primary and secondary branches per plant. November planting was found beneficial in improving several floral characters like diameter (5.00 cm), number as well as weight of flowers per plot (843.55, 5422.66 g, respectively) and yield of flower per hectare (20083.92 kg). Shoot pinching at 30 days after planting improved plant spread, number of leaves, as well as weight of flowers per plot (3745.95 g) and yield of flowers per hectare (13873.0 kg). Interaction effect of November planting with single pinching was found beneficial in improving flower yield per hectare (21382.96 kg).

KEY WORDS : Planting dates, Pinching, Interaction effect, Fresh weight of flower, Yield

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