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Associated Authors: <sup>1</sup>College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, JUNAGADH, (GUJARAT) INDIA

Author for correspondence : A.V. BARAD College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, JUNAGADH, (GUJARAT) INDIA Email : avbarad55@gmail.com, avbarad@jau.in THE ASIAN JOURNAL OF HORTICULTURE Volume 9 | Issue 2 | Dec., 2014 | 309-314 Visit us -www.researchjournal.co.in



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## Standardization of foliar nutrients (NPK) spray in carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L.) varieties under protected condition

## G. MADHURI<sup>1</sup>, A.V. BARAD, P. NEELIMA<sup>1</sup> AND B. NILIMA<sup>1</sup>

**RESEARCH PAPER** 

**ABSTRACT :** The present experiment entitled, standardization of foliar nutrients (NPK) spray in carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus* L.) varieties under protected condition was carried out under polyhouse, at Department of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh during 2013. The experiment consisted of three varieties with five levels of fertilizers and it was laid out in Factorial Completely Randomized Design Design with three replications. The results of present investigation on vegetative growth parameters revealed that variety Don Pedro Rapido with nutrient level 6000 N: 4000 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 2000 K<sub>2</sub>O ppm recorded highest plant height, fresh and dry weight of plant, internodes per stem and internodal length, harvesting span, fresh and dry weight of single cut flower, number of petals per flower, vase life of cut flower, *in-situ* longevity of flower, length of flower stalk, number of flowers per plant, m<sup>2</sup> and hectare, minimum days taken to flower bud initiation, open of first flower. Whereas, only stalk thickness were observed in variety Madame Colette with 6000 N: 4000 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 2000 K<sub>2</sub>O ppm treatment.

KEY WORDS : Carnation, Foliar fertilizer, Protected condition, Varieties

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