

# Effect of Houseplant Focus on the growth and development of vegetable and ornamental plant species

## Independent Research Trials 2022–2023

### Trial Objectives

The main objective of the trial was to determine the effect of Houseplant Focus on the growth and development of selected vegetable and ornamental plant species under greenhouse conditions. Houseplant Focus is a complete liquid fertiliser with added organic extracts and can be applied to a wide range of plant species.

The second objective was to compare Houseplant Focus against a well known brand product and determine any differences in growth and development between the two.

Trials were carried out over the summer period in a naturally ventilated greenhouse under standard growing conditions for each species.

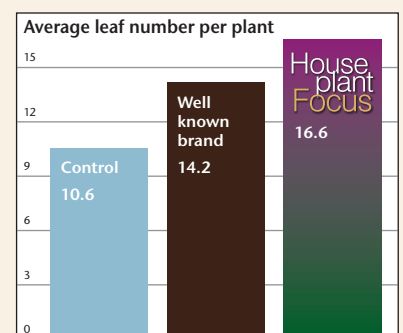
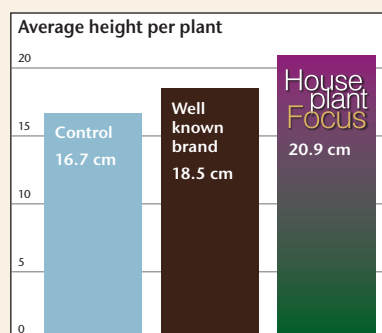
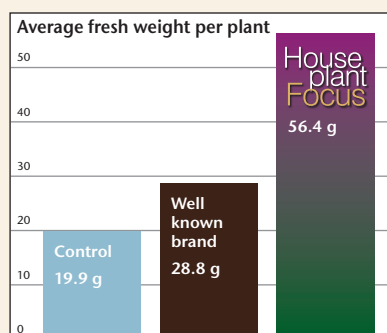
### Methods

Cuttings of chrysanthemum (variety Sussex White), seedlings of basil (variety Sweet Genovese) and seedlings of lettuce (variety Veredes Green Oakleaf) were transplanted into pots containing a substrate mix of one third potting mix (containing slow-release fertiliser), one third perlite and one third vermiculite. Plants were randomly assigned to one of three treatments:

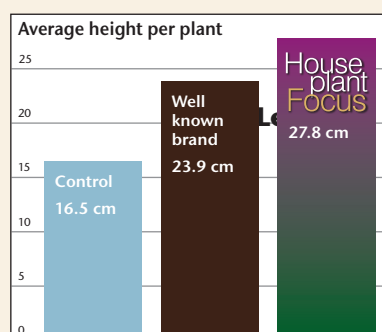
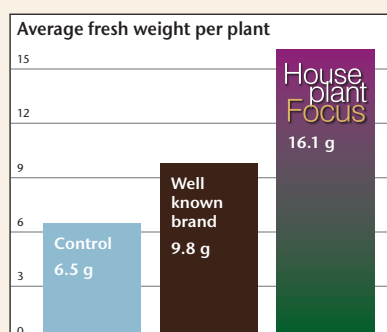
- (i) Control (water application only).
- (ii) The well known brand product at label recommended rates.
- (iii) Houseplant Focus at a rate of 5 ml per litre of water.

Treatments were applied at every second watering to run off. At harvest, plants were removed from their pots and root systems assessed. Fresh weight, height and leaf number data was recorded and the resulting data statistically analysed. All differences shown are statistically significant.

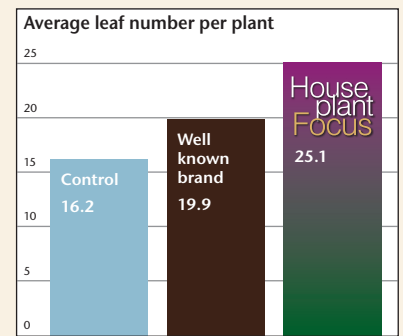
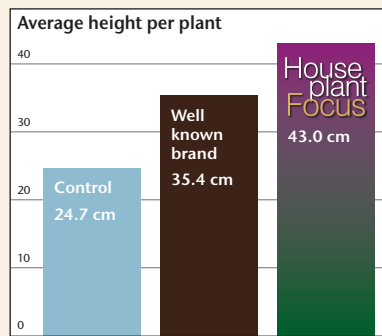
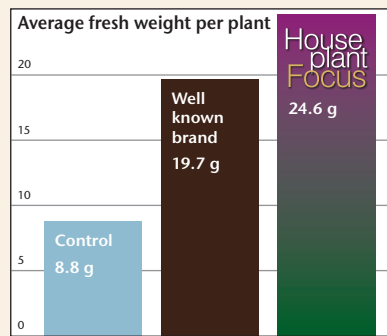
### Results



### Basil



## Chrysanthemum



## Conclusions

In all species tested, plants treated with Houseplant Focus were significantly heavier and taller with a greater leaf number (where data was recorded) than the 'well known product' treatment, indicating that Houseplant Focus provided a greater concentration of essential nutrients for growth and development.

While there was slow-release fertiliser in the potting mix, this did not appear to provide sufficient nutrition alone in early stages of growth and the plants benefited from the additional nutrients supplied by the treatments.

In all species, Houseplant Focus produced visually denser roots, greener, larger leaves and thicker stems.

