

Breeding of *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’

Wen-Nan Lee¹, Chia-Chin Hsu², Hsueh-Shih Lin³

Abstract

The *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’ is the first *Dianthus* which got the plant variety right in October, 2012. The business variety *Dianthus chinensis* ‘Super Parfait Strawberry’, serving as the female parent, was interspecies hybridized to *D. superbis* var. *longicalycinus*, serving as the male parent. As the result of assessments, ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’ was selected from all the F1 plants. The plant height of ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’ is about 20 cm, the diameter of flower is about 5 cm. It can provide delightful effect for ornamental. It is easy to make flower beds when cultured in 12 cm pot or planted in the field. The flower of ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’ is bicolor, the center is pink purple (RHS 72B), and the edge is pink violet (RHS 75D). It keeps light aroma when flowering and more obvious especially in sunny weather. The *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.1 Fragrance Cloud’ can grow and bloom year-round, with new horticulture characteristics of *Dianthus* flowers in Taiwan, is also becoming the superior choice in international markets of heat-tolerant ornamental flowers.

Key words: *Dianthus*, Breeding, DUS test, *D. superbis* var. *longicalycinus*, interspecies hybridization.

^{1,2}Assistant Researcher of Taitung DARES, COA.

³Director of Taitung DARES, COA.