

Breeding of *Dianthus* 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer'

Wen-Nan Lee¹ and Chia-Chin Hsu²

Abstract

The pollination works were conducted from the hybridization between the commercial cultivar *Dianthus barbatus* x *chinensis* 'Dulce mixture' (♀) and *D. seisuimontanus* (♂) in 2010. As the result of assessments, 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' was selected from all progenies. The plant height of 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' is about 20-30 cm, and the flower diameter is nearly 5 cm. It can provide delightful effect for ornamental bedding plant. The flower color of 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' is pink(RHS N74B). It spreads salient fragrance inherited from *D. seisuimontanus* especially when blooming in sunny days. The *Dianthus* 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' has slight apical dominance on early planting, when the apical bud grows to 10 cm, the lateral buds will be initiated. The first flower will open after being planted 55-60 days, and then full bloom after 70 days. The *Dianthus* 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' with novel horticultural characteristics can grow well and bloom year-round. It could also be the good choice for bedding in Taiwan summer. The *Dianthus* 'Taitung No.2 Fragrance Summer' obtained the plant variety right in December, 2016.

Keywords: *Dianthus*, Breeding, DUS test, *Dianthus seisuimontanus*, Interspecies hybridization.

¹ Assistant Researcher of Taitung DARES, COA.

² Assistant Researcher of Taichung DARES, COA.