

Effect of Planting Time on Potted Plant Production of Four Aquatic Plants-Blue Water hyssop, Giant Bacopa, Needle-leaf Ludwigia and Water Clover¹

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Summary

Four Aquatic plants including blue water hyssop, giant bacopa, needle-leaf ludwigia and water clover were cultivated monthly in 3-inch pots to investigate the growth rates of year-round production. The results indicated that using intermediate shoot cuttings to produce blue water hyssop potted plants in April to October, the end products could be obtained in 30 days, and only 15 days were needed in July to September. The end products of blue water hyssop potted plants from apical cuttings cultivated in May to September could be obtained in only 7days. The survival rates of every month were up to 90% besides December, which was 4.2%. The end products of potted giant bacopas from intermediate shoot cuttings cultivated in March to October could be obtained in 27 days and only 15 days were needed in June to September. The end products of potted giant bacopas from apical cuttings cultivated in every month could be obtained in 22 days and those cultivated in March to October were in 10 days. The survival rates of every month were all 100%. The end products of potted needle-leaf ludwigia from creeping stem cuttings cultivated in February to October could be obtained in 30 days and only 7 days were needed in July to September. The survival rates of every month were all 100%. Dwarfing had to be applied to obtain water clover potted plants with commercial value and the survival rates of April to November were 100%, those of March and December were 0%. Temperature lower than 16.6°C would inhibit growth of four tested aquatic plants and the optimum growing temperature of blue waterhyssop, giant bacopa, needle-leaf ludwigia and water clover were 25.2-28.1°C, 23.6-30.3°C, 26.9-30.3°C and 26.9-30.3°C.

Key words: aquatic plant, blue water hyssop, giant bacopa, needle-leaf ludwigia, water clover, potted plant, year-round production

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