

Reference: Agriculture and Gardening

Crop: Gardenia

Place of Cultivation: Sabro

Contact Person: Jørgen Brandt Hansen



Purpose of the treatment: To assess if Terra Biosa could improve the health of the Gardenia plants and reduce the losses due to rotting leaves and fungus attacks.

Application pattern: The garden nursery Jørgen Brandt Hansen, Sabro (Denmark), produces gardenias in greenhouses covering a size of 6.000 m². Terra Biosa has been used in the production since 1997. Cuttings are dipped in a solution of Terra Biosa and a biological product containing greenflies. This treatment gives the plants an optimal start. The plants develop white and healthy roots and there is no sign of rotting. Approximately 33 litre Terra Biosa is applied pr. 100 m² pr. Year. Terra Biosa is used in a concentration of 1-2% (1-2 litres of Terra Biosa pr. 1000 litres of water) in a recycling watering system that waters the plants from the tables they stand on. This way, the leaves do not get in contact with the water and the risk of rotting leaves is reduced.

Results: Before using Terra Biosa, the production had 8 employees, whereof 3 were busy just picking brown leaves. Using Terra Biosa, the plants only have a few brown leaves and these 3 employees are not needed anymore.

Using Terra Biosa has strengthened the healthiness of the plants and their resistance to diseases; thereby the use of pesticides can be completely avoided. Before, there was a yearly loss of plants of 20-30%. After the first year with Terra Biosa the loss was reduced to only 5% and today it is almost at zero. With no chemical fertilisers, the working environment has improved (when using pesticides, entry to the greenhouses was prohibited for three days) and thereby sick leave has been reduced remarkably. Further, Terra Biosa provides a bigger buffer to fluctuations in the fertilisation level. Furthermore the effect is visible in a reduction of fungus attacks on the plants.

Changes	Without Terra Biosa	With Terra Biosa
Losses	20-30%	1%
Use of pesticides and fungicides	+	-
Employees	5,5	3,5
Health problems	+	-