

## New Cultivars of *Cyclamen*, Kage-Yellow and Golden Boy

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My home town, Kurume City, is located in the southwest of Fukuoka Prefecture in Kyushu. Producers of *Cyclamen* in this city number 30.

In Japan, in recent years, production of *Cyclamen* has been gradually increasing with consumers wanting cheaper plants and larger flower colour choice.

To meet these trends in demand for new *Cyclamen*, our nursery set up a tissue culture laboratory and began a breeding project to develop new types of cyclamen. Now, we are very pleased to show our new elite cultivars, Kage-Yellow and Golden Boy, both with yellow flowers. Older cyclamen cultivars lacked yellow flowers. We succeeded in producing yellow-flower-colored types.

**Outline of Breeding.** Our breeding work started with finding yellow-flowered mutants among many seedlings of Kage's strain of 'Pure White'. The flower of 'Kage-Yellow' is medium-sized with a yellow colour at the bud stage and pale cream when open. Its colour becomes deep yellow at lower temperatures (around 15C) and under full sunlight. 'Golden Boy' is an improvement on 'Kage-Yellow' with deeper colour. We will be releasing a true yellow cultivar in the very near future.

## Application of Plug-cell Stock Plant Production System for Orchidaceae Plants

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The common stock type of orchid is flask stock or CP stock. However, a low rate of plants are established during acclimatization. Improvement in the number of good plants acclimatized is important. Plug-cell stock production was tested as a means of improving acclimatization on *Phalaenopsis* flask plants grown from seed. Organic compost combined with a hydroponic culture system was most effective for the establishment of flask plants.

## Application of Tissue Culture Technique in Nursery Stock Production of Fruit Trees

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Twenty years have passed since the tissue culture technique was introduced into nursery stock production on a commercial basis. It was somewhat of a fashion for nursery companies to adopt this new technique. But, at present, there are only a few companies producing plants on a profitable basis. Today, many businesses in