

Breeding of *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’

Wen-Nan Lee¹

Abstract

The pollination works were conducted from the hybridization between the commercial cultivar *Dianthus barbatus* × *chinensis* ‘Dulce white to pink’(♀) and *Dianthus* hybrid ‘OD1077’(*D. seisuimontanus* × *D. longicalyx* Miq. (Maxim.) Will.) (♂) in 2010. As the result of assessments, ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’ was selected from all progenies in 2010-2012. The flower diameter of ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’ is nearly 4 cm without macule. Petals have two main colors: purple red (RHS74B) and white (RHS155C), and the color will be different from dark to light (RHS N74B, RHS N73A, RHS N73B, RHS 75D and RHS 155C), besides the flower have strong aroma when blooming. The *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’ has slight apical dominance on early planting, the first flower will open after being planted 55-60 days, and then full bloom after 70 days. The *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’ with novel horticultural characteristics can grow well and bloom year-round. However, due to the long day after May, it is difficult to obtain cuttings. The *Dianthus* ‘Taitung No.3 Fragrance Pink’ obtained the plant variety right in October, 2018, which was the first color-changing *Dianthus* which have plant variety right in Taiwan.

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

¹Assistant Researcher of Taitung DARES, COA.