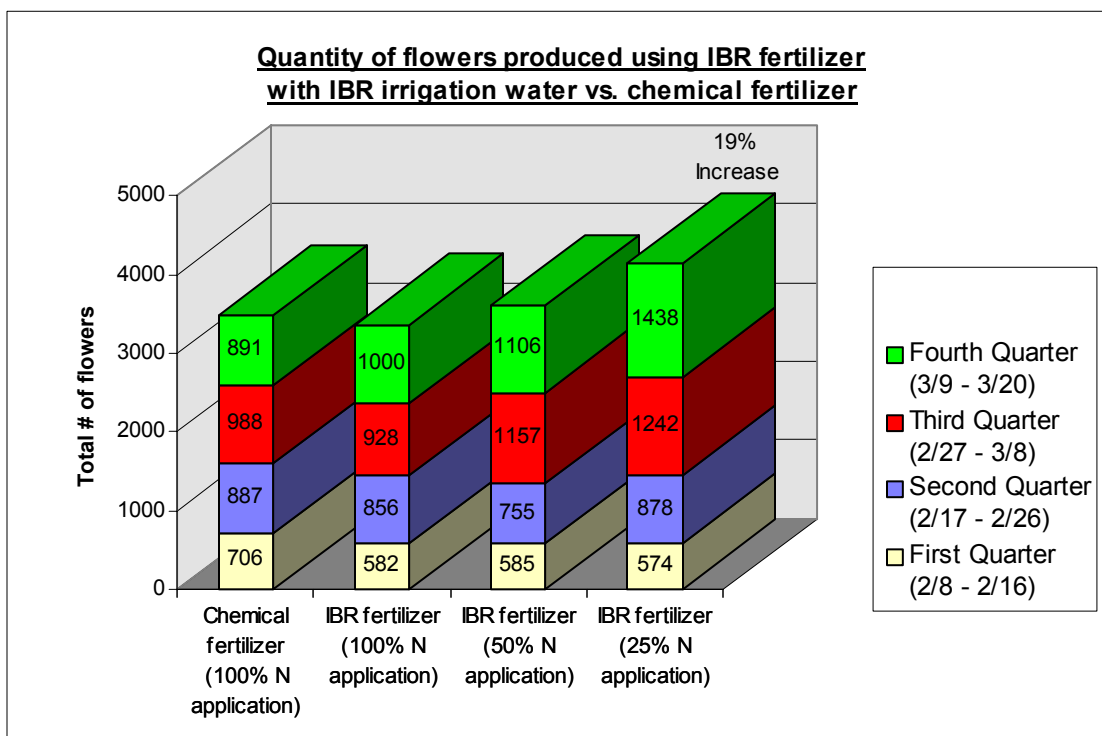


Visscher Greenhouse Study

Location: Chilliwack, B.C.

Crop: Freesia

The effect of using IBR fertilizer vs. chemical fertilizer on the growth of Freesia flowers was assessed at Visscher greenhouses over a 6 week period. Conclusions were drawn by the quantity of flowers produced and how resistant the crops were to disease. As the figure below illustrates, using IBR fertilizer at 25% of the recommended Nitrogen application rate of the chemical fertilizer, produced 20% more flowers. The figure also illustrates the positives effects of IBR fertilizer as time goes on. The first quarter and second quarter results show the IBR fertilizer at 25% N application to produce 19 % and 1% less flowers respectively. But during the third and fourth quarter, the IBR fertilizers produced flowers at 25% and 60% higher levels than the chemical fertilizer.



As well, the flowers fertilized with the chemical fertilizer had a rate of disease affecting between 5-40% of the flowers. No disease was found on any of the flowers fertilized with the IBR fertilizer.