

WUR GREENHOUSE HORTICULTURE

TEST REPORT

Test number : 2020-935

Subject : Heating tube for greenhouses

Make : KLEDAM

Type : 1" / 25 mm

Code :

Applicant : Mr. P. van der Hagen
BU Fluid Handling Solutions
Trelleborg Industrial Hose, Trelleborg Industrie SAS
Rue de Chantemerle
63050 Clermont-Ferrand, France

Purpose of the test

The purpose of the test is to check the risk of damage to greenhouse grown horticultural crops by fumes or vapour released from tubes used as flexible parts in a heating system.

Pre-treatment

Heating tubes were preheated for 24 h at 95°C.

Test method

The test was done in a ventilated room in which four flat closed growth chambers were placed. Each chamber had a content of 0.6 m³ and was covered by a pane of glass. The chambers were electrically heated and one central thermostat controlled the temperature in all the chambers. The plants were lit using fluorescent lamps (18 hours). One chamber was used as a control while one of the other chambers was used for testing the above-mentioned heating tube. A steel pipe connected a thermostatic oven with the growth chamber. In the oven a closed drum was placed and a 0.9 m piece of tubing was put in the drum. The tube was filled with water and the ends were plugged. The temperature in the drum was kept constant at 95°C. This temperature corresponds with the external pipe temperature in a commercial greenhouse when the water temperature in the tube is maintained at 120°C. The vapours were blown intermittently by fan through a pipe from the drum into the growth chamber.

During the test the temperature in the chamber varied around 23°C +/- 1°C. Young plants of cucumber, Chinese cabbage and kohlrabi grown under artificial light were used as test plants. The condition of the plants was checked almost daily.

Results of the test

During the test period of 15 days with the heating tube type KLEDAM type 1" / 25 mm, there were signs of damage to the lower leaves on the cucumber plants after 7 days (less indentations on the edges). After 15 days the young leaves at the top of the plant showed no more damage but the growth was stunted with respect to the control. The kohlrabi and the Chinese cabbage plants were not affected by exposure to the tube.

Conclusion

Taking the result of the test and the large overdose into consideration, it may be expected that this tube will not cause any problems when used in commercial greenhouses after thorough ventilation in the first days of use.

It is strongly advised to heat the tube for 24 hours after installation and before use, together with thorough ventilation.

The approval code KAS 2020-03 for the heating tube KLEDAM 1" / 25 mm is granted.

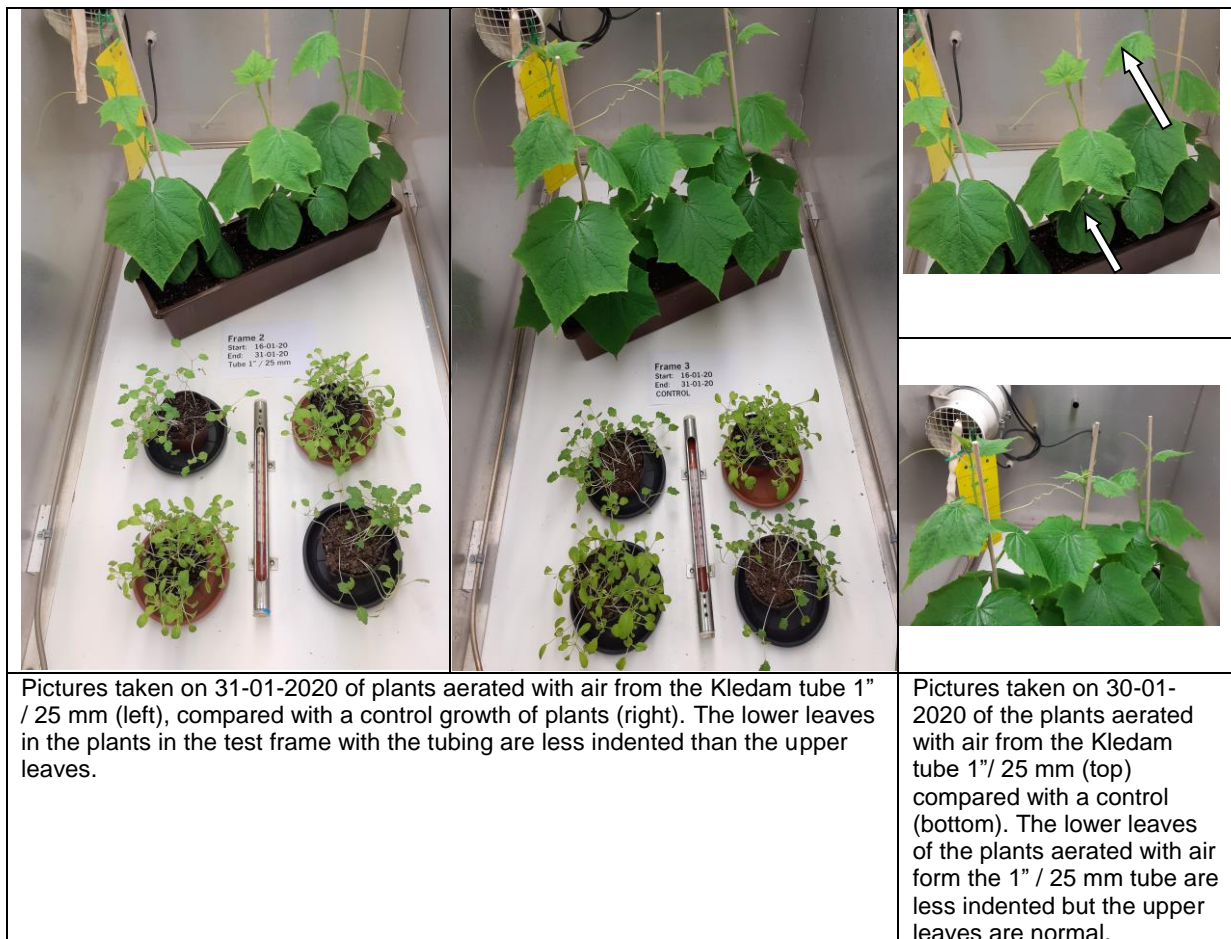
Remark

This report does not consider the quality and reliability of this tube.

Wageningen, 2020-01-31

Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture
P.O. Box 644, 6700 AP Wageningen

Ing. E.A. van Os / B.A. Eveleens



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