

INFLUENCE OF FERTILIZER AND UNICONAZOLE ON GROWTH OF
HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS

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Ascending fertilizer rates in conjunction with uniconazole were tested on rooted liners of *Artemisia arborescens* 'Powis Castle', *A. vulgaris* 'Oriental Limelight', *Astilbe chinensis* 'Pumila', *Filipendula rubra* 'Venusta' and *Perovskia atriplicifolia*. Controlled-release fertilizer (15N-3.9P-10K) was incorporated before potting at 2.4, 4.72, and 7.11 kg m⁻³. Uniconazole at two spray rates that varied with plant species was applied 2 weeks after transplanting. Plant height and width were measured 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks after treatment (WAT). Shoot dry weights were taken at 8 WAT. Analysis of variance indicated no interactions between fertilizer rate and PGR concentration for any of the variables measured. Main effects varied by species. Unusually heavy rainfall throughout the experiment resulted in very low soluble salts levels by 8 WAT, diminishing the fertilizer effects. All crops except *Filipendula* and *Artemisia* 'Powis Castle' were responsive to uniconazole.