High-Beta Plasma Characteristics Using Helicon Sources\textsuperscript{1} SHUN-JIRO SHINOHARA, DAISUKE KUWAHARA, KAZUKI YANO, Tokyo Univ. Agr. & Technol., Japan, AMNON FRUCHTMAN, Holon Inst. Technol., Israel — Helicon sources have been extensively investigated because of their efficient high-density (up tp $\sim 10^{13}$ cm$^{-3}$) plasmas production in a wide range of operational parameters. Using this source with a large diameter of 74 cm [1], high-beta ($\sim 1$) plasma characteristics have been investigated. The magnetic field less than $<120$ G was measured with and without plasma, so that the reduction rate of the magnetic field, i.e., the diamagnetic effect due to the plasma, was evaluated. For a large magnetic field and/or a low fill pressure, the reduction of the magnetic field pressure was found to be nearly equal to the plasma pressure, confirming balance between magnetic and plasma pressures. For a low magnetic field and/or a high fill pressure, however, the magnetic field was hardly changed. We suggest that the neutral pressure associated with a neutral depletion plays a role in weakening of the diamagnetic field. Detailed results with a theoretical analysis will be presented.


\textsuperscript{1}This work was partly supported by JSPS, Japan.

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