

**PROPAGATION OF CALLA (*ZANTEDESCHIA*
SP.) PLANTS BY TISSUE CULTURE
TECHNIQUE**

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ABSTRACT

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This work was carried out in the Tissue Culture Laboratory, Horticulture Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center, Giza, Egypt during the period from 2008 to 2013.

In-vitro produced explants of *Zantedeschia rehmannii* cv. Hot Cherry” were obtained from the Tissue Culture Laboratory of Zohriya Garden, where they were subcultured on MS medium supplemented with BA at 4 ppm. However, explants remained unresponsive, lost their green color and became pale. To solve this problem, the effect of N, Fe and Mg levels in MS Medium was investigated. Further experiments on multiplication, rooting and tuberization were carried out. Results of all these experiments could be briefed in the following.

Raising the level of NH_4NO_3 in MS medium to 175% of the original one resulted in the highest values of total number of shoots and total number of leaves and reasonable chlorophyll content.

It is much better to use MS medium with the normal levels of both Fe and Mg contents.

Using BA at 4 ppm in the multiplication stage proved to be the better choice as it resulted the best number of shoots, total fresh weight of shoots and total number of leaves. Cytokinin-free media failed to produce any number of shoots at all.

Using IBA at 5 ppm in the rooting stage guaranteed the highest values in regard to number of roots, root length, fresh weight of roots and percentage of rooting, in addition to the least number of days to rooting.

Adjusting incubation temperature to 20 °C resulted in the highest number of mini-tubers when sucrose level was 60 g/l. On the other hand, raising incubation temperature to 25 °C gave rise to the heaviest fresh

weight of mini-tubers at 60 g/l sucrose and to the highest mini-tuber diameter at 70 g/l sucrose.

The highest values of number of shoots and total number of leaves were a result of using sucrose at 30 g/l and BA at 4 ppm, while the greatest number of mini-tubers and percentage of tuber formation was obtained when sucrose at 90 g/l and BA at 4 ppm were applied.

The highest records of shoot length, fresh weight of shoot, shoot diameter, number of leaves, number of mini-tubers, mean fresh weight of mini-tuber, mini-tuber diameter and chlorophyll content were obtained when 3 g/l of KNO₃ were added to MS medium. The quickest tuber formation took place when KNO₃ at 4 g/l was added.

Key Words: BA, FeSO₄.7H₂O , IBA, incubation temperature, KNO₃, MgSO₄.7H₂O, mini-tuber, MS medium, NH₄NO₃, tissue culture and *Zantedeschia*.

ABBREVIATIONS

BA, BAP:	Benzyl adenine
DKW:	Driver Kuniyuki Walnut
IAA:	Indol-3-acetic acid
IBA:	Indol-3-butyric acid
Ki, Kin, KT:	Kinetin
L2:	Phillips and Collins medium
Meq:	Milliequivalent
MS:	Murashige and Skoog medium
MSB:	Mitis salivarius bacitracin medium
NAA:	Naphthalene acetic acid
N.B.:	Nota bene
TDZ:	Thidiazuron
WH:	White's medium
WPM :	Woody plant medium

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