

In Vitro regeneration of *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn through embryo culture

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Abstract: *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn is listed as Threatened Medicinal Plant and is widely used in traditional systems of medicine. Embryos from seeds of *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn were cultured on M.S. Medium and M.S. Medium supplemented with natural complex-tomato juice (30%). Embryos on both the media showed successful germination and seedlings were developed within eight weeks. Regenerated seedlings transferred in thermocol cup containing sterile (autoclaved) mixture of sand, vermicompost & soil (1:1:1) for hardening showed 93.75% survival rate. The regenerated seedlings were successfully acclimatized in green house with 100% result and then 100% transplantation success was achieved under natural atmospheric conditions. The present study provide efficient, simplified, economic protocol for rapid in vitro regeneration of *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn

Keywords: Embryo, In Vitro Regeneration, Medicinal Plant, M.S. Medium, *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn.

I. Introduction

Plumbago zeylanica Linn is perennial plant of family plumbaginaceae. It is Commonly called as White leadwort, White plumbago, Ceylon leadwort, Safed chitrak. It is evergreen shrub and enjoys an important place in traditional medicine since ancient time. It is used in many preparations of Ayurvedic as well as Unani system[1]

[2]

चित्रकोऽनलनामा च पाठी व्यालस्तथोषणः। चित्रक कटुकः पाके वह्निकृत्पाचनो लघुः॥
रूक्षोष्णो ग्रहणीकुष्ठशोथार्शः कृमिकासनुत्। वातश्लेष्महरो ग्राही वातघ्नः श्लेष्मपित्तहृत्॥

The tincture of root bark of *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn is antiperiodic, sudorific. Milky juice is applied in scabies and ulcers. [3] [4] Roots are abortifacient, vesicant, antidiarrhoeal, appetizing, digestive. It is useful in anasarca, piles, dyspepsia. [3] [4] It is also useful in epilepsy, hysteria, rheumatic affections, obesity, purigo. [3] It is used in leprosy. [4] Vaghabhata and Susruta praised it as bitter tonic. [5] The plant is used as vulnerary in New Caledonia. The roots are used as an enema to cure piles in the Gold Coast. [4] The roots stimulates the secretion of urine, bile and has stimulant action on the nervous system. [6]

Because of its use in various diseases, the plant is continuously collected from nature without replanting. Seeds are produced in large number but propagation through seed is unreliable due to poor seed quality, erratic germination and seedling mortality under natural field conditions (Chaplot et al 2006) [6] It is listed as threatened medicinal plant (Mittal and Sharma 2010) [7] and in future likely to be endangered if not conserved and propagated properly.

Review of earlier studies reveals that maximum protocols developed for *in vitro* regeneration of *Plumbago zeylanica* L. were from explants like nodal segments [6] [8] [9] [10] [11] [12] [13], leaves [6] [12], segments of internodes [8], shoot tips [8]. Only one record of regeneration through embryo culture by Idayat T. Gbdamosi and A. Eguyomi was found. [9] The present study was undertaken to establish a rapid simplified method of *in vitro* regeneration through embryo culture to supplement natural propagation.

II. Materials And Methods

2.1 Collection of seeds

Seeds of *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn cultivated in house garden were selected and dried in shade. Damaged and shrunken seeds were discarded and healthy uniform seeds were selected.

2.2 Soaking of seeds

Seeds were soaked in sterile distilled water for 24 hours [14].

2.3 Surface sterilization

The seeds were washed thoroughly in running tap water for 30 minutes. The seeds are rinsed in D.W containing a drop of Tween 20. Then washed repeatedly in sterile D.W. for 4-5 times. Then surface sterilization with 70% ethyl alcohol for 1 min followed by repeated washing with sterile D.W. was done. Then again the material is surface sterilized by 0.1% mercuric chloride for 8 minutes. Seeds were rinsed properly 3-4 times with sterile D.W. [8] [15]

2.4 Culture medium

Murshige-Skoog medium was used for embryo culture. Murshige-Skoog medium was with 3% sucrose & 0.8 % agar. P^H of medium is adjusted to 5.8[16] prior to autoclaving. Medium was autoclaved at 15 pounds pressure for 20 minutes. M .S .medium supplemented with natural complex- tomato juice (30%) [17] was also used .

2.5 Inoculation of embryo

Embryos from surface sterilized seeds were excised with the help of sterile blade without causing injury to embryo. These excised embryos were cultured aseptically in test tubes containing medium. All these operations were carried out aseptically in Laminar Air Flow Cabinet.

2.6 Culture Conditions

The cultures were incubated in tissue culture room at 25±2 °C with photoperiod of 16 hours.

2.7 Hardening

Regenerated seedlings were removed from culture medium. Washed thoroughly in sterile distilled water to remove medium. Then these plantlets were directly transferred to thermocol cup containing sterile (autoclaved) mixture of sand, vermicompost & soil (1:1:1). Thermocol cups were kept in culture room for 2 weeks. [10] Then they were transferred to larger earthen pots containing sand, and garden soil (1:4) & kept in green house for one month & then transferred to normal field conditions.

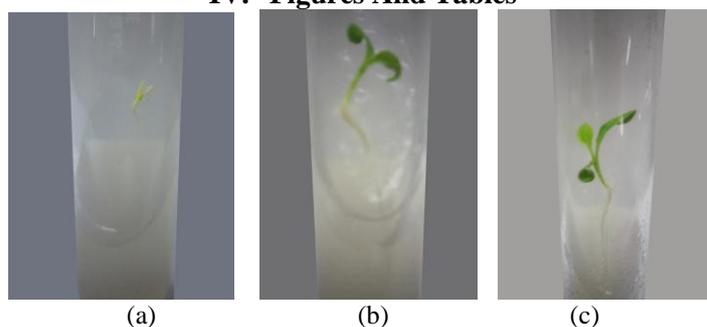
III. Results And Discussion

Embryos showed higher percentage of germination on M .S. medium as compared with M .S. medium supplemented with natural complex- tomato juice (30%). Percentage germination of embryo on different media is as presented in Table 1. Two cotyledonary leaves start to separate on 5th-6th day of culture and later they become green within 2-3 days. Number of leaves start to increase from 18th days of culture. Seedlings were completely developed within eight weeks of culture. Table 2 shows growth of root and shoot of seedlings developed on M.S. Medium. These seedlings when transferred in thermocol cup containing sterile (autoclaved) mixture of sand, vermicompost & soil (1:1:1) for hardening show 93.75% survival rate. Regenerated seedlings were then transferred in larger earthen pots & kept in green house. They show 100% survival and then they were transferred in natural field conditions with 100% success.

Seedlings developed on M.S. medium and M.S. medium supplemented with natural complex- tomato juice (30%) showed differences in nature of roots and leaves. These differences are shown in Table 3.

Idayat T. Gbdamosi and A .Eguyomi (2010) cultured embryos on M. S. medium supplemented with NaH₂PO₄.H₂O (170 mg/l), 2,4D(0.5 mg/l) and different combinations of NAA and BAP and also on NPK basal media supplemented with different concentrations of *Citrus sinensis* juice. The present protocol uses M.S. medium without addition of any plant hormones. Developed protocol is simple and help to minimize experimental cost. The regenerated plants did not show any morphological variation compared to mother plant

IV. Figures And Tables



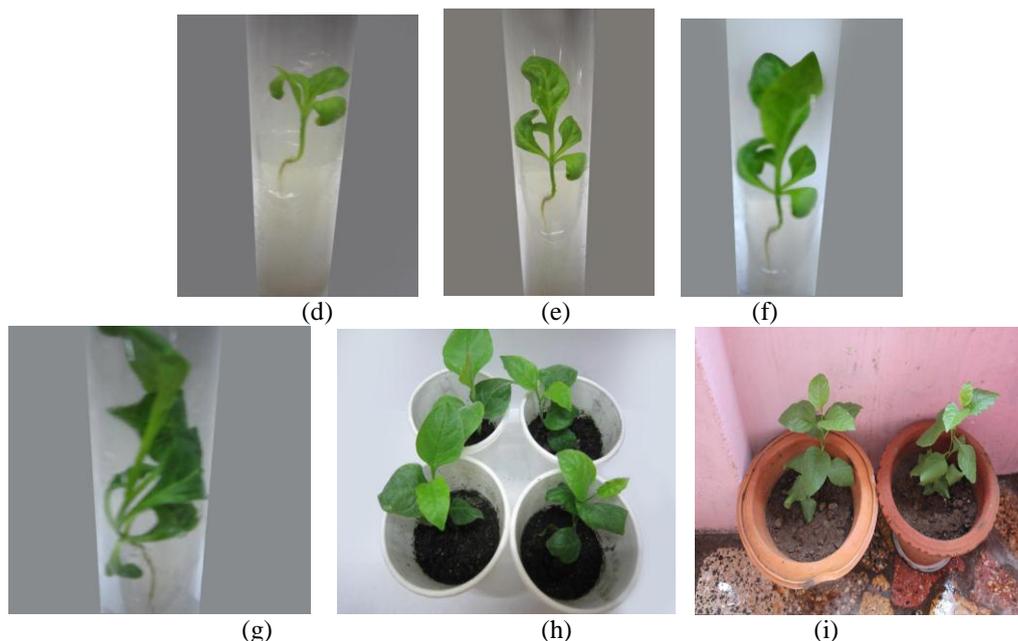


Figure 1. Different Developmental Stages Of Embryo Culture on M.S. Medium (a) Cotyledonary leaves separating at 6th day of culture (b) Two leaves stage at 11th day of culture (c) Three leaves stage at 18th day of culture (d) Four leaves stage at 27th day of culture (e) Five leaves stage at 31st day of culture (f) Six leaves stage at 35th day of culture (g) Seedling before hardening (h) Hardening (i) Transplanted regenerated plants

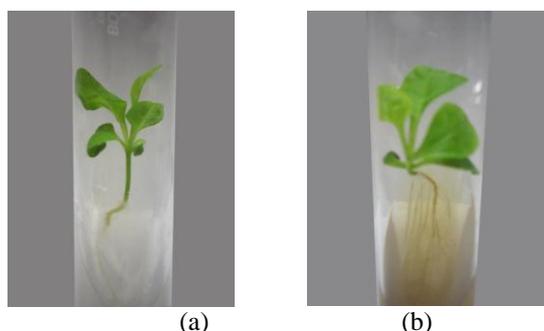


Figure 2. Effect of different media on nature of root & leaves (a) seedling developed on M.S. medium (b) seedling developed on M.S. medium supplemented with natural complex-Tomato juice (30%)

Table 1. PERCENTAGE GERMINATION OF EMBRYO ON DIFFERENT MEDIA

Sr.No.	Type of Medium	% Germination	% Callus formation
1	M .S. Medium	100	0
2	M.S .Medium supplemented with natural complex-tomato juice (30%)	92.86	0

Table 2. ROOT AND SHOOT LENGTH OF SEEDLINGS DEVELOPED IN EMBRYO CULTURE ON M.S.MEDIUM

Sr. No.	No .of Days of culture	Root Length (cm)	Shoot length (cm)
1	10	3.23±0.64	0.6±0.14
2	12	3.83±0.79	0.82±0.15
3	14	4.04±0.72	1.08±0.13
4	16	4.67±0.54	1.39±0.06
5	18	5.19±0.81	2.15±0.34
6	20	5.48±0.76	2.53±0.33
7	22	5.91±0.93	2.75±0.43
8	24	6.18±0.98	2.89±0.40
9	26	6.59±0.93	3.21±0.36
10	28	6.97±0.99	3.42±0.29

11	30	7.39±1.02	3.6±0.32
12	32	7.68±0.93	3.90±0.17
13	34	8.04±0.71	4±0.28
14	36	8.22±0.74	4.48±0.48
15	40	8.44±0.73	4.69±0.45
16	42	8.82±0.67	5.06±0.24

The results are mean ±S.D. of three experiments, each with 3 replications

Table3. EFFECT OF DIFFERENT MEDIA ON NATURE OF ROOT & LEAVES

Sr.No.	Medium	Roots	Leaves
1	M .S. Medium	Thin ,less branched ,short, dirty white in colour	Narrow & Longer
2	M.S. medium supplemented with natural complex-Tomato juice (30%)	Thick ,extensively Branched ,long , darker	Broader & Shorter

V. Conclusion

Present study provide reproducible, simplified protocol for direct regeneration of plant *Plumbago zeylanica* Linn with high frequency. This ensure sustainability and easy availability of plant for treatment of various diseases.

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