

**MICROPROPAGATION OF *Loropetalum chinense*
Plant**

By

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out in the Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory, Horticulture Research Institute, Agriculture Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture and land reclamation, Giza, Egypt, during the period from 2016 to 2019. An efficient direct shoot regeneration micropropagation protocol has been established successfully for commercial *in vitro* propagation of *Loropetalum chinense*, an ornamental plant with medicinal values. The optimized sterilization conditions for the Terminal node stem cuttings with its two axillary buds explants were exposure to sodium hypochlorite at 0.25 % for 20 min and 0.5 % for 15 or 20 min gave the highest value of survived explants (100 %). In establishment stage, MS medium supplemented with 0.5 mg/l IBA gave (3.0 shoots) the highest number of shoots. The multiplication stage should be cultured on MS medium supplemented with 2.0 mg/l BA which recorded 7.67 shoots at the end of the third subculture. For rooting of the regenerated shoots, using WPM medium supplemented with NAA at 1.0 mg/l resulted in significantly highest number of roots (4.0) and highest rooting percentage (100%) than that recorded with other treatments. Growing medium consists of peatmoss and vermiculite at the ratio of 1:1 (v/v) was the best for acclimatization. Inter simple sequence repeats (ISSR) analysis detected similarity to the mother plant in the *in vitro* propagated plants, that the protocol will be useful for *Loropetalum chinense* production. This plant protocol could be used for large scale regeneration of *Loropetalum chinense*.

Key words : *Loropetalum chinense*, IBA, BA, ISSR analysis ,Tissue culture.

LIST OF TABLES

No	Title	Page
1	List of used ISSR primers name and their nucleotide sequences.	52
2	Effect of different concentrations of silver nitrate (AgNO ₃) and soaking period on surface sterilization of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	55
3	Effect of different concentrations of Sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl) and soaking period on surface sterilization of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	58
4	Effect of different concentrations of mercuric chloride (HgCl ₂) and soaking periods on surface sterilization of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	60
5	Effect of different concentrations of NAA, IBA and 2,4 – D and different media on shoot length during establishment stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	62
6	Effect of different concentrations of NAA, IBA and 2,4 – D and different media on number of shoots during establishment stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	64
7	Effect of different concentrations of NAA, IBA and 2,4 –D and different media on number of leaves during establishment stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	65
8	Effect of MS medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on shoot length during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	67

9	Effect of MS medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on number of shoots during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	69
10	Effect of MS medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on number of leaves during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	70
11	Effect of WPM medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on shoot length during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	72
12	Effect of WPM medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on number of shoots during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	74
13	Effect of WPM medium and different concentrations of BA , Kin and 2iP on number of leaves during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	75
14	Effect of MS,WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of NAA, IBA on plantlet length during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	77
15	Effect of MS,WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of NAA, IBA on number of leaves during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	80
16	Effect of MS,WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of NAA, IBA on number of roots during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	82

17	Effect of MS,WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of NAA, IBA on root length during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	85
18	Effect of MS,WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of NAA, IBA on rooting percentage during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	87
19	Effect of different growing media on plantlet length, number of leaves/ plantlet, number of shoots/plantlet and survival percentage during acclimatization stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	88
20	Type and number of amplified DNA bands generated by five ISSR primers used for the identification of the <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	92

LIST OF FIGURES

No	Title	Page
1	<i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	3
2	Effect of IBA at 0.0, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0 mg/l in MS medium during establishment stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	62
3	Effect of BA at (0.0, 1.0, 2.0,3.0, 4.0, 5.0 mg/l) in MS medium during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	67
4	Effect of BA at (0.0, 1.0, 2.0,3.0, 4.0, 5.0 mg/l) in WPM medium during multiplication stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	72
5	Effect of NAA at (0.0, 1.0, 2.0, 4.0mg/l) in WPM medium during rooting stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	78
6	Effect of growing media on acclimatization stage of <i>Loropetalum chinense</i>	89
7	Gel electrophoresis of ISSR fragments profiles generated by using 5 primers: 844-A ,844-B, 17898 A, 17898-B and HB-14)	93

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	4
1. Surface sterilization	4
2. Establishment stage	9
3. Multiplication stage	14
4. Rooting stage	27
5. Acclimization stage	39
6. Molecular genetic identification	44
MATERIALS AND METHODS	47
RESULTS	53
a. Surface sterilization with Silver nitrate	53
1. Contamination percentage.....	53
2. Survival percentage	53
3. Mortality percentage.....	54
b. Surface sterilization Sodium Hypochlorite	55
1. Contamination percentage.....	55
2. Survival percentage	56
3. Mortality percentage.....	57
c. Surface sterilization with mercuric chloride	58
1. Contamination percentage.....	58
2. Survival percentage	59
3. Mortality percentage.....	59
2. Establishment stage	61
a. Shoot length (cm).....	61
b. Number of shoots.....	63
c. Number of leaves.....	64
3. Multiplication Stage	65
a. Effect of MS medium supplemented with different concentrations of BA, Kin and 2iP	65
(1) . Number of shoots	65
(2) b. Shoot length	68

CONTENTS (continued)

(3) c. Number of leaves /shoot.....	69
b. Effect of WPM medium supplemented with different concentrations of BA, Kin and 2iP	70
(1) . Number of shoots	71
(2) . Shoot length	73
(3) . Number of leaves /shoot	74
4. Rooting stage	75
a. plantlet length.....	76
b. Number of leaves.....	78
c. Number of roots.....	81
d. Root length.....	83
e. Rooting percentage.....	85
5. Acclimatization stage.....	87
6. Inter Simple Sequence Repeats (ISSRs).....	90
DISCUSSION.....	94
CONCLUSION	99
SUMMARY	100
REFERENCES.....	103
APPENDICES.....	132
ARABIC SUMMARY	