Influence of Auxin Concentration on *in vitro* Rooting of *Chrysanthemum morifolium* Ramat

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Efficient in vitro rooting of *Chrysanthemum morifolium* Ramat., using hormone free media with different concentrations of auxins was developed. In this study we used three different auxins at various concentrations (0, 0.1, 0.5 and 1.0 mg/L) of IAA (Indole-3-acetic acid), IBA (Indole-3-butyric acid) and NAA (1-Naphthaleneacetic acid) for root development in *Chrysanthemum morifolium*. Shoot explants from *in vitro* culture were grown on a medium to determine the potential of rooting frequency, number of roots per explant and root length. However, SH medium with 1mg/L of (IBA) induced the highest number 5.7 ± 0.5 of root per explant among the three different concentrations of auxin used followed by (IAA) and NAA. The highest root length 36.2 ± 3.3 was achieved in SH medium with 1mg/L of IAA and lesser number of roots and root length were developed in NAA. The in vitro rooted plants were hardened and acclimatized in the greenhouse and successfully (100%) transplanted to the field. Protocols were developed in the present investigation for cloning and large scale plant production of Chrysanthemum (*C. morifolium* Ramat.)

Keywords: Chrysanthemum morifolium, Root regeneration, Auxin.

Chrysanthemum (C. morifolium Ramat.), also known as Autumn Queen, and is one of the high value ornamental species found in worldwide. It is globally the second economically most important floricultural and vegetatively propagated cash crop following rose^{1,2}. Now a days, the dried capitulum of *C. morifolium, Chrysanthemi* Flos, is an most valuable medicinal material in China, Japan, Korean and other countries^{3,4}, which is used for "scattering cold", "cleaning heat and toxin" and "brightening eyes"⁵. Recently few researchers investigated Chrysanthemum (*C. morifolium* Ramat.) has various medicinal properties, such as antibacterial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory activities⁶⁻¹⁰. It is also widely used as a food supplement or herbal tea, and is considered as a healthy food^{4,11}.

Chrysanthemum morifolium Ramat. is cultivated widely in China. Its flower head is a popular traditional medicine called as 'Ju Hua' in Chinese, which has been listed in Chinese Pharmacopoeia⁵ as *Chrysanthemi* Flos. The flower of Chrysanthemum Morifolium Ramat. (CM) is widely used as a healthy beverage and medicine due to its unique flavor, color, and health benefits. Its anti-oxidation, vasoactive effects and antiischemia /reperfusion injury action have been proved in animal tests and clinic studies¹². The healthy benefits of CM are confirmed to be connected with the flavonoids, such as luteolin, luteolin-7-O-2-D-glucoside, acacetin-7-O-2-Dglucoside, apigenin-7-O-2-D-glucoside, etc.¹³⁻¹⁵. Luteolin is a natural flavone and it is distributed extensively in the vegetable kingdom. In clinic,

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luteolin can relieve a cough, make expectoration easy, antiphlogosis. In vivo, it has the functions of antivirus, strong antimicrobial activity and reduces cholesterol and serum lipid. Luteolin-7-O-²-D-glucoside could be biotransformed to their aglycone forms-luteolin (3', 4', 5, 7 tetrahydroxyflavone) in intestine by action of microorganism when the extract of CM was orally administrated¹⁶. Caffeoylquinic acids and flavonoids, such as luteolin, apigenin and their glucosides are the actual bioactive compounds of Chrysanthemum plants¹⁷.

Chrysanthemum is one of the most popular cut flowers in India as well as in international market and it occupies an important position in the world cut flower trade. To get trueto-type plants, commercial cultivars are mostly propagated by means of vegetative cuttings or suckers. The market for ornamentals has steadily increased over the last few years and a continued period of growth is expected with the opening of new markets in developing countries like India.

The modern trends of plant micropropagation based on cell and tissue culture techniques are able to increase the efficiency of breeding processes^{18,19}. They offer opportunities for rapid clonal propagation of some unique, superior genotypes^{20,21}. Many researchers have reported for plant regeneration from different plant organs of C. morifolium. Recently, many research has been studied on the development of shoot organogenesis and plant regeneration from petal^{22,23}, leaf²⁴, and stem²⁵ explants cultures of C. morifolium for enhanced micropropagation system.

In vitro rooting of *C. morifolium* is one of the most valuable factors regulating the growth and micropropation. Therefore, aim of this study was to find out the suitable growth regulators for rapid root proliferation from young stem explants of C. morifolium.

MATERIALSAND METHODS

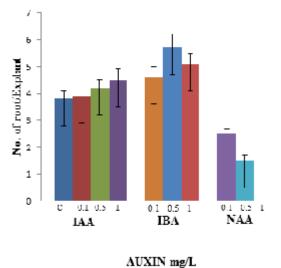
Plant materials

Young shoots were collected from 1years-old plants of C. morifolium growing in the green house of the Chungnam National University, Daejeon, Korea. For establishment of in vitro shoot cultures, the leaves from young shoots were eliminated and cutted around 5 cm in length. These explants were washed with tap water for 5-10 minutes and were surface sterilized with 70% (v/v) ethanol for 30 sec and 1% sodium hypochlorite solution for 10 min. The explants were then rinsed thoroughly with sterilized distilled water and were incubated on 50 mL of hormone free MS (Murashige and Skoog, 1962)²⁶ basal medium in Magenta box under the light condition. The basal medium consisted of mineral salts and vitamins supplement together with 30 g/L of sucrose and 8 g/L of Phytagar as a solidifying agent. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 5.8 before adding the Phytagar and sterilized by autoclaving at 121°C for 20 minutes. After 4 weeks cultured elongated shoots were obtained and maintained under controlled environmental conditions until used. Promoting root regeneration with auxin

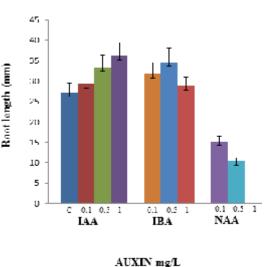
Different auxins such as NAA (1-Naphthaleneacetic acid), IBA (Indole-3-butyric acid) and IAA (Indole-3-acetic acid) and their different concentrations of 0, 0.1, 0.5 and 1.0 mg/L were used in combination with hormone SH medium for efficient root regeneration in C. morifolium. Five segments of 1~2 cm long shoots were cultured on Magenta box containing 50 ml each of the respective medium. These basal media, consisted of salts and vitamins, were solidified with 0.3 % Gelrite and supplemented with 3% (w/v) sucrose. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 5.8 prior to the addition of Gelrite and autoclaved at 121°C with the pressure of 1.1 kg cm⁻² for 20 min. Cultures were then incubated at 25±1°C with a 16- hr photoperiod per day under the standard cool and white florescent tubes. All experiments were carried out in triplicate. Rooting efficiency, average number of root per explant and root length were measured at 4 weeks after incubation.

Transferring plantlets to green house condition

Regenerated plantlets were maintained continuously under the in vitro condition until the roots become well developed. After 8 weeks, the rooted plants were then transferred to the pots containing autoclaved vermiculite soil. Immediately after transplantation, the plants along with the pots were covered with moist polythene bag to prevent from desiccation. To reduce sudden shock, the pots were kept in a growth-controlled room for 7-15 days. After two to three days, the polythene bags were gradually perforated to expose the plants to natural environment. The bags were then completely



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Fig. 1. Response of different concentrations of auxins on number of root regeneration from excised stem of *Chrysanthemum morifolium* after four weeks of *in vitro* culture.

Fig. 2. Response of different concentrations of auxins on root length from excised stem of *Chrysanthemum morifolium* after four weeks of *in vitro* culture

removed after 10-15 days when the plantlets appeared to be self-supportive. At that stage, the plantlets were placed in natural environment for 3-10 hours daily. Finally, after 15-20 days, they were transferred to a green house condition.

Statistical analysis

The data obtained was analyzed as mean \pm standard deviation from 50 shoot explants tested.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Efficient root regeneration

For better in vitro root regeneration, previous studies reported SH basal media was most suitable for root organogenesis in *Chrysanthemum morifolium*²⁷. The type of medium has been found to play an important role in the root regeneration of *C. morifolium*. In order to determine for most efficient root regeneration, stem explants of *C. morifolium* were cultured on SH basal medium supplemented with different auxin concentration (0,0.1,0.5,1.0 mg/L each of IAA, IBA, NAA) containing 30 g/L sucrose and 3 g/L gelrite. The more number of root and length was achieved in IAA, IBA and were not formed root in NAA. Among these concentrations higher root number 5.7 ± 0.5

was developed at 1 mg/L IBA. These results were showed in figure 1. The higher level of root length was showed 36.2 ± 3.3 at 1 mg/L IAA and results were showed in figure 2. Although when increasing the concentration of IAA and IBA showed increases root number and length, but in NAA increased concentration showed less number of root and length. Different growth regulators involved the induction and enhanced the root number as well as their length were reported previously^{28,29}. Roots are mostly induced in the presence of an auxin. IAA, IBA and NAA promoted high percentage of rhizogenesis in general. However, in the present study, IAA showed just a little promotive effect on root induction. On the other hand, IBA showed the most positive effect on induction and elongation of roots among the different auxins used in this study. Such an effect of NAA was also observed by Taylor³⁰ in tomato. Moreover, numerous studies have indicated that, among the common auxins, NAA is the most effective auxin for induction of root regeneration^{31,32}. IBA improved the root regeneration has been investigated earlier in Passiflora foetida³³. In previous studies reported without growth regulators roots were regenerated

from *Chrysanthemum morifolium* Ramat.)³⁴. In this study, different type of auxin could promote in root regeneration although different concentrations of auxin were used in *Chrysanthemum morifolium* Ramat.).

CONCLUSION

In the present study an efficient in vitro root propagation protocol has been developed for Chrysanthemum (*C. morifolium* Ramat.). A very good number of shoots were multiplied and almost all the shoots were developed roots in this method. It reduced time, energy and cost of production of micropropagated plantlets and increased the possibility of survival in the field condition. This protocol can be used for large scale production of superior and disease free plants and supplied to the farmers at low cost as standard stock planting material. This information indicates a useful for further advance study in promoting commercial root production via gene transformation in the future.

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