

IN VITRO PRODUCTION OF CALLUS FROM ZYGOPHYLLUM COCCINEUM L.

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[Corresponding author: Eman200980@hotmail.com](mailto:Eman200980@hotmail.com)**Abstract**

Tissue culture technique was used to produce callus from the wild economic plant (*Zygophyllum coccineum* L.). MS medium supplemented with 2 mg/l 2, 4-D was the most suitable medium for callus induction using stem segments explants after 4 weeks. MS medium supplemented with 3 mg/l 2, 4-D was the most suitable medium for growth of this callus after 4 weeks.

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Key words: ZYGOPHYLLACEAE, *IN VITRO PRODUCTION OF CALLUS, ZYGOPHYLLUM COCCINEUM L.*

Introduction

Genus *Zygophyllum* (Zygophyllaceae) includes many medicinal and economic plants which have diuretic, anthelmintic, antidiabetic, antibacterial and insecticidal effects (Elgamal *et al.*, 1995; El-Hefnawi, 1999; Nawairy *et al.*, 2002 and Assar and El-Sopky, 2003). Tissue culture technique was used to cultivate different genera of Zygophyllaceae for regeneration purposes such as *Zygophyllum xanthoxylon* (Bunge) (Sun, 2008), to produce more biologically active compounds such as ascorbic acid from callus of *Fagonia cretica* (Kapoor, 2002), alkaloids, saponins, flavonoids and phenolic compounds of antibacterial activity more than the intact plant (Eman *et al.*, 2010), diosgenin from callus of *Balanites aegyptiaca* (Gour and Kant, 2006) and beta -carboline and serotonin alkaloids and fatty acids from callus of *Peganum harmala* (Piacetini *et al.*, 2004).

Our work aims to produce callus from *Zygophyllum coccineum* using tissue culture technique because it is difficult to produce callus from it because it is succulent plant however the medicinal and economic importances of it.

Materials and Methods**Plant materials:**

Samples of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. were collected from Quatamia - Suez desert road (150 Km away from Suez City). Samples were authenticated by comparison with voucher specimens in the herbarium of Botany Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, where voucher specimens were deposited.

Methods:**1- Callus induction:**

This experiment was carried out to study the effect of different concentrations of 2, 4-D on callus

induction of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. stem segments explants. Explants were surface sterilized by immersion in 70 % ethanol for 30-60 seconds, then soaked in 50% of sodium hypochlorite (commercial Clorox) for 15-20 minutes, then washed with sterile distilled water "3 times" (Hoda, 1994). Sterilized explants were aseptically transferred to sterilized MS medium (Murashige and Skoog, 1962); supplemented with 3% sucrose (Khafagi, 2000), 1% agar (Torres, 1989) and different concentrations of 2,4-D as follows.

Media	Hormones
1	1 mg/l 2,4-D
2	2 mg/l 2,4-D
3	3 mg/l 2,4-D

The callus cultures were incubated at 25± 2°C for four weeks. The percentage of calli induction was calculated every week during the incubation period.

2-Callus growth:

Callus of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. stem segments explants can be maintained by subculturing on MS medium supplemented with different concentrations of 2, 4-D as previously mentioned in callus induction.

The callus cultures were incubated at 25± 2°C for four weeks. Weight of callus of hypocotyle explants was taken as an indicator of callus growth on each medium as follows:

+	≥ 1 g
++	≥ 2 g
+++	≥ 5 g

3- Statistical analysis:

Statistical analysis of all results was done using Fisher analysis of variance methodology. A least significant difference test was applied at 5% and 1% probability level to determine differences among treatment means (Steel and Torrie, 1984). The

MSTAT computerized package program was subjected to the regular statistical analysis of variance

(Nissen *et al.*, 1985). Each reading = mean of three replicates \pm SD.

Results and Discussion

1- Callus induction:

Data in Table (1) revealed that, using stem segments explants of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. to induce calli through the incubation period (four weeks) on the three used media, it was found that, there is a highly significant variation between the three used media for calli induction from stem segments explants. The three types of media can induce calli with special reference to medium number (2).

Table (1): Responses of stem segments explants of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. to calli induction on three different media during four weeks.

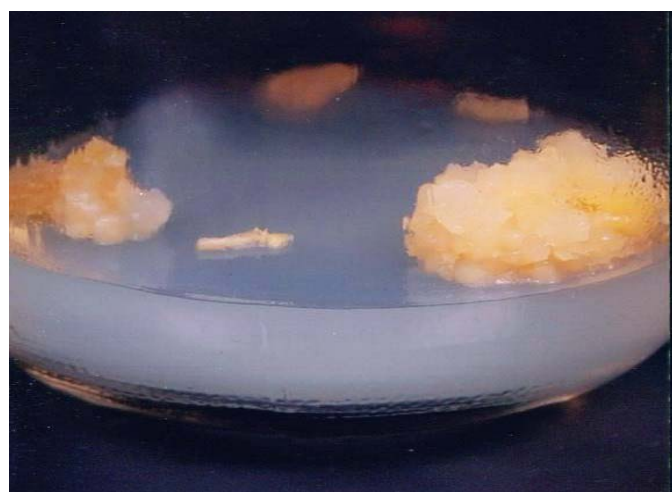
Media	1 st week	2 nd week	3 rd week	4 th week
1	0.22 \pm 0.10	0.44 \pm 0.09	0.55 \pm 0.10**	0.55 \pm 0.10**
2	0.22\pm0.10	0.50\pm0.00	0.67\pm0.10**	0.72\pm0.04**
3	0.14 \pm 0.10	0.28 \pm 0.25	0.28 \pm 0.25	0.28 \pm 0.25
L.S.D. (0.05)	0.39			
L.S.D. (0.01)	0.40			

2- Callus growth:

Data in Table (2) and Photos (1-2) revealed that, callus of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. stem segments explants grew on media number 1,2 and 3, with special reference to that on medium number 3. These results agreed with Zhang and Kang, 2004; Khafagi *et al.*, 2004; Ibrahim and Khafagi, 2004; Mohan *et al.*, 2004 and Gour and Kant, 2006 since they found that, *Nitraria tangutorum*, *Peganum harmala*, *Tribulus terrestris* and *Balanites aegyptiaca* respectively can induce calli using MS medium supplemented with 2,4-D.

Table (2): Qualitative estimation of callus growth of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. stem segments after four weeks.

Media	Weight of callus (g)
1	+
2	++
3	+++



Photos (1-2)

Photos (1-2): Callus growth of stem segments explants of *Zygophyllum coccineum* L. on medium number (3) after four weeks.

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