

STANDARDIZATION OF MICRO-PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE FOR *ANTHURIUM ANDRAEANUM* IN ANDAMAN ISLAND

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Abstract: Anthuriums are popular cut flowers with attractive spathe colours and highly popular as cut flower and potted plant in international markets. The humid tropical coastal climate of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is very congenial for growing anthurium. Availability of planting material is a major constraint for commercial cultivation of anthurium in the island. Micro-propagation is the option for rapid multiplication of planting material with production of true to type, disease free quality planting material. The present study was therefore undertaken to standardize the micro-propagation of anthurium using MS media. Callus induction, shoot & root multiplication using leaf and apical shoot buds of *Anthurium andraeanum* explants was achieved with modified MS medium supplemented with 1.0 mg/l 2, 4-D and 1 mg/l BAP. Explants of young leaves and apical shoot buds showed callus formation at 75 and 63 days respectively after inoculation and the callus formation percentage was maximum in apical shoot bud (48.42 %) whereas in leaves it was 35.25%. Maximum number of shoots and percentage of rooted shoots per explant observed in apical shoot buds 18.64 ± 1.89 and 95% respectively).

Key words: Anthurium, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Micro-propagation, Callus, Explant

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