

# **PLANT TISSUE CULTURE – THEORY AND TECHNIQUES**

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*Published by:*

Scientific Publishers (India)  
5 A, New Pali Road, P.O. Box 91  
Jodhpur 342 001 (India)

E-mail: [info@scientificpub.com](mailto:info@scientificpub.com)  
Website: [www.scientificpub.com](http://www.scientificpub.com)

*Branch Office*

Scientific Publishers (India)  
4806/24, Ansari Road, Daryaganj  
New Delhi - 110 002 (India)

Print: 2016

ISBN: 978-81-7233-602-8 (HB)  
978-81-7233-593-9 (PB)

eISBN: 978-93-86102-20-1

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Printed in India

## FOREWORD

This book is an elegant piece of work which combines the research experience in plant tissue culture with the extensive knowledge of the needs of undergraduate and post graduate students for a subject that is increasingly pervading the public and private sector and offers a vast scope for future. This book provides a clearly written, well documented text that covers all the basic and applied aspects of plant tissue culture and enables the students to formulate their experiments independently. The illustrative text and references of this book enables the reader to follow up the points of interest in greater detail.

The coming years will see the spread of plant tissue culture in all the fields of Agriculture, Botany, Genetic manipulations, Environmental science and in varied industrial applications, which requires better understanding of the subject. This book titled “ Plant tissue culture – theory and techniques” by Shailesh Kumar, Sweta Mishra and A.P. Mishra, will undoubtedly contribute significantly by inspiring students in this direction.



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## PREFACE

The purpose of this book is to introduce a basic experimental method for each of the major areas of investigation involving the isolation and culture of plant cells, tissues and organs. Each chapter is devoted to a separate aspect of plant tissue culture and the chapters are arranged in the order of increasing technical complexity. This book is mainly written for the undergraduates and postgraduate students and also for the research workers working in this area. The book is designed keeping in mind the problems faced by the scientists and research scholars working with plant tissue culture, however, it can be used as a supplementary text for developmental botany and biology.

The opening chapters present a brief historical survey of the field of plant tissue culture, a background in sterilization techniques. Various components of the nutrient medium have been dealt in greater detail. The text deals with the experimental details of each and every technique. Several chapters introduce diverse approaches to plant propagation by in vitro techniques. The protocols have been simplified legibly to include details and notes that we hope will help the user avoid unnecessary errors and confusion. All the applications of plant tissue culture have been very well discussed and the techniques associated with them described in detail. The various sections have been written with safety in mind, but users should ensure that they are fully familiar with all safety requirements of the equipments and media. Plant tissue culture is not without risk to the experimenter.

Tissue culture, however, is still sometimes more art than science. It has been said that the greatest thing that anyone can achieve is to make a difference. We hope that, in writing this book, we will, in some small way, do just that.

The authors acknowledge all the contributions made by the scientists of the present and past era who have been working in the field of plant tissue culture due to which the science has gained such an importance today.

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## CONTENTS

<i>Foreword</i>	<i>iii</i>	
<i>Preface</i>	<i>v</i>	
Chapter 1	Introduction and History of Plant tissue culture	1
Chapter 2	Laboratory Design and management	10
Chapter 3	Good Laboratory Practices	16
Chapter 4	Contamination	19
Chapter 5	Sterilization techniques	25
Chapter 6	Buffers and Solutions	31
Chapter 7	Plant culture media	38
Chapter 8	Plant hormones	56
Chapter 9	Collection and preparation of explants	62
Chapter 10	Micropropagation	68
Chapter 11	Cell suspension culture	75
Chapter 12	Meristem culture	86
Chapter 13	Callus culture	91
Chapter 14	Organogenesis	98
Chapter 15	Somatic embryogenesis	103
Chapter 16	Somaclonal variation	111
Chapter 17	Embryo rescue and Embryo culture	117
Chapter 18	Haploid production	123

Chapter 19	Protoplast isolation, culture and Somatic hybridization	132
Chapter 20	Secondary metabolite production	139
Chapter 21	Cryo-preservation	146
Chapter 22	<i>Agrobacterium</i> -mediated transformation	156
Chapter 23	Micro tuber production in potato	164
Chapter 24	Elementary statistics often used in plant sciences	171
Chapter 25	Design, its layout, analysis and interpretation for the experiment conducted in laboratories	177
	Appendices	186
	Glossary	193
	References	201
	Subject index	208

Plant tissue culture is one of the most rapidly growing areas of biotechnology because of its high potential to develop improved crops and ornamental plants. With the advances made in the tissue culture technology, it is now possible to regenerate species of any plant in the laboratory. To achieve the target of creating a new plant or a plant with desired characteristics, tissue culture is often coupled with recombinant DNA technology. Seed culture is the type of tissue culture that is primarily used for plants such as orchids. For this method, explants (tissue from the plant) are obtained from an in-vitro derived plant and introduced in to an artificial environment, where they get to proliferate. In the event that a plant material is used directly for this process, then it has to be sterilized to prevent tissue damage and ensure optimum regeneration. Embryo Culture. Plant Tissue Culture is the process of growing isolated plant cells or organs in an artificial nutrient media outside the parent organism. In other words, it is an in vitro culture of plant cells or tissues on artificial nutrient media under aseptic conditions, in glass containers. This is a technique by which new plants can be raised on artificial nutrient media by the use of plant parts or cells. These small parts can be pollen, leaves, seed, root tip, embryo, etc.

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Embryo Culture. Plant Tissue culture is the in vitro aseptic culture of cells, tissues, organs or whole plant under controlled nutritional and environmental conditions often to produce the clones of plants. It refers to a collection of techniques used to maintain or grow plant cells, tissues or organs under sterile conditions on a nutrient culture medium of the known composition. The resultant clones are true-to-type of the selected genotype.

Principle of Plant Tissue Culture. Open access peer-reviewed chapter. Plant Tissue Culture: Current Status and Opportunities. By Altaf Hussain, Iqbal Ahmed Qarshi, Hummera Nazir and Ikram Ullah. Submitted: December 13th 2011Reviewed: June 9th 2012Published: October 17th 2012.

The culture media for plant tissue culture consists of various nutritional components to sustain the plant's growth. Different plants do need different media, however, specific media have been devised for specific tissue and organs. Some of the important media are: White's Medium, etc. Plant tissue culture is a collection of techniques used to maintain or grow plant cells, tissues or organs under sterile conditions on a nutrient culture medium of known composition. It is widely used to produce clones of a plant in a method known as micropropagation. Different techniques in plant tissue culture may offer certain advantages over traditional methods of propagation. Plant tissue culture is an essential component of plant biotechnology. Apart from mass multiplication of elites, it also provides the means to multiply and regenerate novel plants from genetically engineered cells. The promising plant thus produced may be readily cloned in cultures under aseptic conditions. Tissue Culture is widely used in many programmes. Tissue Culture is becoming an alternative means to vegetative propagation of plants. In vitro growing plants are usually free from bacterial and fungal.