

Effect of glutamine and polyamines in micropropagation of strawberry plants

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Abstract: This research was conducted in the plant tissue culture Lab. College of Agriculture / University of Baghdad – Al-Jadriya. *In vitro* shoot clusters of (*Fragaria X Ananassa Duch* cv. Festival) were used as experimental materials. Explants were collected from 4 weeks old virus free aseptic proliferated meristems. Shoot clusters of strawberry explants without roots were cultured on MS media which were supplemented with (1 mg.L⁻¹ BA and 0.1 mg.L⁻¹ IBA) and amino acid (Glutamine) which were added separately at various concentrations (0, 25, 50 and 100 mg.L⁻¹), and added two selected polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) at concentration (0, 0.07, 0.14 and 0.28 mg.L⁻¹). In rooting stage, shoots obtained from the shooting stage were transferred for culturing on MS nutrient medium supplemented 0.1 mg.L⁻¹ IBA with Glutamine and polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) at the same previously concentrations. The results indicate that the treatment of glutamine at concentration of 100 mg.L⁻¹ has given the highest increase in the number and length of shoots of 7.60 and 1.88 cm respectively. The interaction between concentration of polyamines and their type significant results where the addition of putrescine at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) to the culture nutrient medium was the highest significant result in stimulating the number of shoots/explant and their length of (6.6) and 2.67 cm, respectively, while the addition of spermidine at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) to the culture nutrient medium was the highest significant result in stimulating the number of roots/explant and their length of (9.8) and 8.35 cm, respectively.

Date of Submission: 18-04-2018

Date of acceptance: 05-05-2018

I. Introduction

Strawberry (*Fragaria X Ananassa Duch*) are members of the Rosaceae family, is one of the most flavored fruit in the world. It is a delicious small fruit widely appreciated mainly for its characteristic aroma, rich in vitamin B, vitamin C, fiber, folic acid and potassium (Kessel, 2003; Hasan et al., 2010). The acreage of strawberry in the world reached about 401862 hectare, with production of 9118336 tons, the main producing countries are China then USA, Mexico, Egypt, Turkey (Fao, 2016). The propagation of strawberries is achieved either by runners or by *in vitro* micropropagation. Conventional propagation methods are slow, laborious, and expensive with many limitations and may not be recommended for effective and commercial multiplication, so we go to tissue culture (Ashrafuzzaman et al., 2013). Micropropagation of strawberries from runners was initially reported for achieving efficient generation and large numbers of disease free plants (Moradi et al., 2011). Root development is under the control of hormonal, metabolic, and environmental cues, these processes involve not only the five 'classical' plant hormones, but also other growth regulators, such as polyamines. Polyamines are lightweight molecular that are present in all living organisms. Polyamines are necessary for the growth of prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Putrescine, spermidine and spermine are the major Polyamines in plants (Fazilati and Forghani, 2015). Muthu et al. (2012) spermidine has a significant role in cell division, growth and differentiation and has improved the number of leaves and chlorophyll content in it when added to the nutrient solution of the troysterange plants. Al-Juboury and Hamad (2015) also studied the effect of adding levels of spermidine on *in vitro* micropropagation of *Citrus volkameriana* rootstock, and they found in multiplication stage, MS medium supplemented with 0.07 mg /l spermidine was the highest for shoot proliferation (6.5 shoot/explant). Whereas, those obtained from MS medium supplemented with 0.14 mg/l spermidine revealed best results for shoot terminals (5.5 shoots / explant). In another study was investigating the influence of combinations of Indole butyric acid (IBA), Naphthalene acetic acid (NAA) and three concentration of polyamine Spermidine (0, 0.5 and 1 mg.L⁻¹) on rooting of shoots of *citrus volkameriana* rootstock, Al-Khazali and Hamad (2016) found the MS medium supplemented with 0.5 mg.L⁻¹ spermidine gave the highest percentage of rooting and root number that was not significantly different than other concentrations of spermidine.

Amino acid mixtures such as casein hydrolysate, L-glutamine, Lasparagine and adenine are frequently used as sources of organic nitrogen in culture media. Gerdakaneh et al. (2012) demonstrated that the type and concentration of amino acid have imperative effects on the somatic embryogenesis process and embryo development of the strawberry cultivars. El-Sharabasy et al (2015) conducted an experiment to investigate the

effect of three amino acid compounds (Tyrosine, Arginine, or Glutamine) at different concentrations on the shooting and rooting stages as well as the residual effects of the examined amino acid compounds on the harvested rooting plantlets for the acclimatization stage. As they found the highest significant result of shoot number/explant and root number of cultured strawberry was obtained at (25 mg/L) for each studied amino acid compound, while that there was no significant difference among the tested concentrations (25, 50 and 100 mg/L) of each amino acid type in shoot length/explant after two subcultures during multiplication stage. This study aimed to conduct the optimum type and concentrations of the two selected polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) and two amino acid (Arginine and glutamine) for an effort of enhancing in vitro regeneration of (*Fragaria X Ananassa* Duch cv. Festival) during shooting and rooting stages since there were no studies investigated for strawberry micropropagation in this approach.

II. Material and Methods

This research was conducted in the plant tissue culture Lab. College of Agriculture / University of Baghdad – Al-Jadriya. In vitro shoot clusters of (*Fragaria X Ananassa* Duch cv. Festival) were used as experimental materials. Explants were collected from 4 weeks old virus free aseptic proliferated meristems; the in vitro propagation was carried out according to the protocol of Khierallah and Ahmad (2014) to investigate the effect of amino acid (Glutamine) at different concentrations on the shooting and rooting stages and two selected polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) at different concentrations. Sterilize with a 3% NaOCl solution for 15 minutes with Tween 20 drops, then wash with distilled water three times. Planted in the MS media with 0.5 mg. L⁻¹ BA and 0.1 mg. L⁻¹ of IBA and then incubating the plants at 25 ° C under 1000 lumens and 16/8 light / dark for four weeks. The branches obtained from the shooting stage are transferred for culturing on MS nutrient medium supplemented with 1 mg. L⁻¹ BA and 0.1 mg. L⁻¹ from IBA. We then study the effect of polyamines and amino acids.

Shooting stage: Shoot clusters of strawberry explants without roots were cultured on MS media (Murashige and Skoog, 1962) which were supplemented with (1 mg.L⁻¹ BA and 0.1 mg.L⁻¹ IBA) and amino acid (Glutamine) which were added separately at various concentrations (0, 25, 50 and 100 mg.L⁻¹). And add two selected polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) at concentration (0, 0.07, 0.14 and 0.28 mg.L⁻¹). Data recorded in this stage included the number and length of shoots.

Rooting stage: Shoots obtained from the shooting stage were transferred for culturing on MS nutrient medium supplemented 0.1 mg.L⁻¹ IBA with Glutamine and polyamines (Putrescine, spermidine) at the same previously concentrations. In this stage data recorded was regarding the root numbers and lengths (cm) after (4-6) weeks of culturing. After inoculation, the culture jars were maintained at a temperature of 25 ° C with a 16 hours/day photoperiod. Lighting was supplied using fluorescent lamps with 1000 lux for the multiplication and rooting stage.

Statistical analysis:

The experiments were carried out using completely randomized design. Each treatment consisted of ten replicates, each of this replicate consisted of one explant. The results were analyzed using the analysis of variance and the means were compared using the Least Significant Difference (LSD) at the 5% level according to (Elsahookie and Wuhaib, 1990).

III. Results and Discussion

Influence of the Glutamine concentration on shoot number and lengths, root number and length:

The results of Table (1) indicate that the treatment of glutamine at concentration of 100 mg.L⁻¹ has given the highest increase in the number and length of shoots of 7.60 and 1.88 cm respectively. While the control treatment gave the highest number of roots and lengths, which reached at 9.70 and 6.80 cm respectively. This investigation clearly established that amino acids play a vital role in the induction and development of the maximum number of multiple shoots. The results demonstrated that factors such as this type of amino acid and the amount employed in the culturing process provided significant effects on the induction of multiple shoots (Karlidag et al., 2009).

Table (1) Influence of the Glutamine concentration on shoot number and lengths, root number and lengths of Festival strawberry cultivar

Glutamine concentration mg.L ⁻¹	Shoot number	Shoot lengths (cm)	root number	root lengths (cm)
0	6.40	1.13	9.70	6.80
25	1.40	1.22	4.60	4.00
50	2.00	1.58	2.30	3.58
100	7.60	1.88	1.40	3.96
L.S.D 5%	0.73	0.20	2.16	1.25

Shoot number:

From data in Table (2) the supplementation of two types of polyamines separately at the studied concentrations to the MS nutrient medium enhanced significantly the shoot number of the cultured explant of (*Fragaria X Ananassa* cv. Festival). The highest significant result of shoot number/explant of cultured strawberry was obtained at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) for each studied polyamines compound (6.5) followed significantly by the addition of concentration of (0.14 mg.L⁻¹) its gave 5.8 shoot number/explant. Control culture mediums without the addition of polyamines recorded the lowest significant result (2.4) of increasing in shoot number/explant. Data indicated that when spermidine was added to culture nutrient medium, the highest significant result was obtained in increasing shoot number/explant (4.8). The interaction between concentration of polyamines and their types significant results where the addition of putrescine at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) to the culture nutrient medium was the highest significant result in stimulating the number of shoots/explant (6.6).

Table (2) Influence of polyamines type and their concentration on shoot number of Festival strawberry cultivar

polyamines concentration mg.L ⁻¹	Polyamines type		mean
	Putrescine	spermidine	
0.00	1.3	3.5	2.4
0.07	6.6	6.4	6.5
0.14	3.7	7.9	5.8
0.28	5.9	1.3	3.6
Mean	4.4	4.8	
L.S.D 5%	Concentration	type	interaction
	0.44	0.31	0.62

Shoot length:

Data in Table (3) clearly revealed that there was no significant difference among the tested polyamines added to culture nutrient medium an increase in shoot length/explant. However, polyamines concentration was significant effect on shoot length, The highest significant result of shoot length/explant of cultured strawberry was obtained at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) for each studied polyamines compound (1.88)cm. Regarding the interaction of the different concentrations of polyamines and their type, Putrescine gave the most significant difference at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) in increasing in shoot lengths of the cultured explants of 2.67 cm. It is consistent with a study by Anjum (2011) on the effect of Spermidine added to the nutrition medium of the Troyer Citrange, which improved the leaves number and leaves chlorophyll content, Polyamine has an effect on cell division, growth and development and has the ability to protect plants from non-life stresses.

Table (3) Influence of polyamines type and their concentration on shoot length (cm) of Festival strawberry cultivar

polyamines concentration mg.L ⁻¹	Polyamines type		mean
	Putrescine	spermidine	
0.00	1.24	1.38	1.31
0.07	2.67	1.08	1.88
0.14	1.00	0.85	0.93
0.28	1.00	2.33	1.67
Mean	1.48	1.41	
L.S.D 5%	Concentration	type	interaction
	0.19	N.S	0.27

Root number:

From data in Table (4) the supplementation of two types of polyamines separately at the studied concentrations to the MS nutrient medium enhanced significantly the root number of the cultured explant of (*Fragaria X Ananassa* cv. Festival). The highest significant result of root number/explant of cultured strawberry was obtained at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) for each studied polyamines compound (9.7) followed significantly by the control treatment its gave 5.7 root number/explant. Data indicated that when spermidine was added to culture nutrient medium, the highest significant result was obtained in increasing root number/explant (9.7). The interaction between concentration of polyamines and their types significant results where the addition of spermidine at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) to the culture nutrient medium was the highest significant result in stimulating the number of shoots/explant (9.8).

Table (4) Influence of polyamines type and their concentration on root number of Festival strawberry cultivar

polyamines concentration mg.L ⁻¹	Polyamines type		mean
	Putrescine	spermidine	
0.00	4.8	6.6	5.7
0.07	9.6	9.8	9.7
0.14	3.7	3.9	3.8

0.28	1.2	2.8	2.0
Mean	4.8	5.8	
L.S.D 5%	Concentration	type	interaction
	1.23	0.87	1.74

Root length:

Data in Table (5) demonstrated that after six weeks during rooting stages the addition of polyamines concentration significantly effect on root length. The highest significant result of root length/explant of cultured strawberry was obtained at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) for each studied polyamines compound (8.15 cm) followed significantly by control treatment's gave 5.46 cm root length/explant. Data indicated that when spermidine was added to culture nutrient medium, the highest significant result was obtained in increasing root length/explant (5.46 cm). The interaction between concentration of polyamines and their type significant results where the addition of spermidine at (0.07 mg.L⁻¹) to the culture nutrient medium was the highest significant result in stimulating the length of roots/explant (8.35 cm). These effects may be related to the involvement of polyamines in the control of cell division and differentiation, which plays an important role in the root apex and during lateral and adventitious root formation (Couee et al, 2004).

Table (5) Influence of polyamines type and their concentration on root length (cm) of Festival strawberry cultivar

polyamines concentration mg.L ⁻¹	Polyamines type		mean
	Putrescine	spermidine	
0.00	4.80	6.12	5.46
0.07	7.95	8.35	8.15
0.14	3.20	4.13	3.67
0.28	2.00	3.22	2.61
Mean	4.49	5.46	
L.S.D 5%	Concentration	type	interaction
	1.17	0.82	1.65

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Miada T. El-GaborY "Effect of glutamine and polyamines in micropropagation of strawberry plants." IOSR Journal of Agriculture and Veterinary Science (IOSR-JAVS) 11.5 (2018): 08-11.