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**The influence of type and concentration
of carbohydrates on growth and branching
of *Clematis integrifolia* *in vitro***

Wpływ rodzaju i stężenia węglowodanów na wzrost i rozkrzewianie
Clematis integrifolia *in vitro*

Summary. The influence of type and concentration of carbohydrates on *in vitro* shoot proliferation of *Clematis integrifolia* was studied. The explants used in the experiment were excised from aseptic cultures incubated on solidified MS medium. Shoot tips were placed on MS basal medium supplemented with 2 mg 2iP·dm⁻³ and 0.5 mg IAA·dm⁻³. The aim of the experiment was to estimate the influence of different carbohydrates: sucrose, galactose or fructose at concentration of 0, 10, 20, 30 or 40 g·dm⁻³ on growth and proliferation of *Clematis integrifolia* explants. The obtained results showed that fructose at the concentration of 10 mg·dm⁻³ had the most positive effect on the growth of the main shoot. The highest proliferation rate was observed on the media with sucrose in concentration of 30 g·dm⁻³ and the obtained axillary shoots were in the highest amount, length and weight. Galactose in all concentrations used in the experiment definitely inhibited growth and proliferation and rooting of shoots.

Key words: carbohydrates, *Clematis integrifolia*, *in vitro*

INTRODUCTION

Genus *Clematis* (*Ranunculaceae*) includes around 300 species of vines, shrubs and herbaceous perennials. Clematises are widely used and valued as garden plants. *Clematis integrifolia* is a perennial of 70–150 cm height. It has large, single leaves and bell-shaped flowers, which are usually dark blue or violet. It flowers from June to September [Matthews 2002].

They are propagated mainly through stem cuttings [Erwin *et al.* 1997, Hlebionek 1999], but many species and cultivars root with difficulty. Micropropagation is a good method of vegetative propagation which allows to increase the number of good quality

and healthy offsprings. There are just a few scientific works concerning clematis micropropagation by direct organogenesis. The research was done by Kreen *et al.* [2002] and Guan-Kai *et al.* [2002]. Mandegaran and Sieber [2002] as well as Luttman *et al.* [1994] obtained *Clematis* microshoots through somatic embryogenesis. However, this type of micropropagation does not guarantee genetic sustainability.

The *in vitro* morphogenic processes are usually affected by physical environment and culture medium such as carbon source [Biahoua and Bonneau 1999, Fuentes *et al.* 2000]. Carbohydrates control morphogenesis by acting as energy source and by altering the osmotic potential of the culture medium, which influences cell wall properties such as extension, hardening and composition, followed by subsequent modification in morphogenesis [Pritchard *et al.* 1991].

The aim of the undertaken experiment was to estimate what type of carbohydrates and in what concentration is the most proper for tissue culture of *Clematis integrifolia* L. *in vitro*.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experimental object were 15–20 mm shoots of *Clematis integrifolia* L. excised from aseptically grown shoot clusters. Explants were placed into 300 ml Erlenmayer flasks filled with Murashige and Skoog [1962] basal medium with addition of isopentenyl-adenine (2iP) at the concentration of $2 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$ and indole-3-acetic acid (IAA) at the concentration of $0.2 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$. The media was chosen on the basis of previous experiments. In the experiment different carbohydrates: sucrose, fructose and galactose, which were added to the media in concentrations of 0, 10, 20, 30 and $40 \text{ g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$, were studied. Medium pH was adjusted to 5.8 with NaOH prior to the addition of 0.65% of agar and subsequently autoclaved for 20 min at 120°C . The cultures were incubated in a culture room at a temperature of 22°C during the day and 20°C at night and 16-h photoperiod with irradiance of $35 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$. Each combination included 21 shoots. Each flask (7 shoots) was treated as a replication. The experiment was repeated twice. After four weeks the experiment was finished and the plant material was analysed. During the experiment the following data were collected: height, number of leaves and weight of the main shoot, number of shoots forming axillary shoots, number, length and the fresh weight of axillary shoots, percentage of rooting, number of roots per shoot, root length and weight, percentage of shoots that callused and callus weight.

The results obtained in the experiment were evaluated statistically with the use of analysis of variance and Tukey t-test at 5% level of significance.

RESULTS

The growth of the main shoot was statistically similar in all used combinations of sugar studied in the experiment. However, on the basis of the obtained results it can be stated that fructose at the concentration of $10 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$ had the most positive effect on the growth of *Clematis integrifolia* main shoots in the presence of which they were the highest (17.4 mm). Good results were also observed while sucrose in all concentrations used was added to the medium (12.9 to 15.2 mm). Significantly smaller shoot growth was on the media supplemented with galactose in all studied concentrations (4.2 to 4.8 mm) – Tab. 1, Fig. 1.

Table 1. The effect of carbohydrates and their concentration on *Clematis integrifolia* growth and development *in vitro*

Type of carbohydrates	K			Sucrose			Fructose			Galactose			
Concentration (g·dm ⁻³)	0	10	20	30	40	10	20	30	40	10	20	30	40
Shoot height (mm)	10.5 _a	13.3 _a	14.4 _a	15.2 _a	12.9 _a	17.4 _a	11.6 _a	7.2 _a	6.5 _a	4.2 _a	4.8 _a	4.5 _a	4.2 _a
Mean	10.5 _a *		14.0 _a			10.7 _a				4.4 _b			
No. of leaves	5.9 _{a-d}	6.6 _{ab}	6.6 _{ab}	6.4 _{ab}	6.6 _{ab}	7.3 _a	6.1 _{abc}	5.1 _{bcd}	4.5 _{cd}	3.4 _d	3.4 _d	3.4 _d	3.5 _d
Mean	5.9 _b		6.6 _a			5.8 _b				3.4 _c			
Shoot weight (mg)	21.2 _a	21.7 _a	19.0 _a	19.7 _a	18.0 _a	24.4 _a	24.8 _a	15.2 _a	14.4 _a	7.5 _a	12.0 _a	9.6 _a	7.9 _a
Mean	21.2 _a		19.6 _a			19.7 _a				9.2 _b			
Percentage of branched shoots	37 _{abc}	14 _{bc}	40 _{ab}	63 _a	48 _{ab}	43 _{ab}	17 _{bc}	11 _{bc}	0 _c	0 _c	0 _c	0 _c	0 _c
Mean	37 _a		41 _a			18 _b				0 _c			
No. of axillary shoots	1.9 _a	1.5 _a	1.7 _a	2.1 _a	1.6 _a	1.6 _a	0.9 _a	0.6 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	1.9 _a		1.7 _a			0.8 _b				0 _c			
Length of axillary shoots (mm)	1.9 _a	2.4 _a	3.2 _a	4.3 _a	3.6 _a	3.2 _a	4.1 _a	1.0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	1.9 _a		3.4 _a			2.1 _a				0 _b			
Weight of axillary shoots (mg)	1.6 _a	1.5 _a	2.4 _a	3.2 _a	2.1 _a	2.8 _a	3.6 _a	1.0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	1.6 _a		2.3 _a			1.8 _a				0 _b			
Percentage of callused shoots	3 _a	6 _a	26 _a	43 _a	31 _a	28 _a	28 _a	40 _a	20 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	3 _b		26 _a			29 _a				0 _b			
Callus weight (mg)	0.2 _a	0.6 _a	2.6 _a	2.5 _a	1.6 _a	2.4 _a	3.1 _a	3.1 _a	2.4 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	0.2 _b		1.8 _{ab}			2.8 _a				0 _b			

K – Control

* Means followed by the same letter do not differ significantly

The number of leaves differed significantly depending on the type of sugar used in the research. The most leaves were obtained with the use of fructose at the concentration of 10 g·dm⁻³ (7.3 leaves per shoot) in comparison to the concentration of 30 and 40 g·dm⁻³ of the same sugar (5.1 and 4.5 leaves per shoot, respectively) and galactose in all concentrations (3.4 to 3.5 leaves per shoot).

The weight of the main shoot did not differ significantly depending on the sugar added to the medium. On the basis of the obtained results it was observed that the main shoot of the biggest weight was on the media supplemented with fructose at the concentration of 20 mg·dm⁻³.

Sucrose added to the media promoted branching of the main shoot. In the presence of this sugar at the concentration of 30 mg·dm⁻³ 63% shoots formed axillary shoots. Statistically similar results were obtained with sucrose at the concentrations of 40 and 20 mg·dm⁻³ (48 and 40%, respectively), fructose at the concentration of 10 mg·dm⁻³ (43%) and without sugar (37%). Fructose at the concentrations 20–40 mg·dm⁻³ and galactose at all concentrations used inhibited branching significantly. Addition of glucose or fructose at the concentrations of 40 mg·dm⁻³ completely stopped proliferation (0%, Tab. 1).

The number of axillary shoots did not significantly differ depending on the sugar added to the medium. On the basis of the obtained results it can be stated that the highest number of axillary shoots was obtained while sucrose at the concentration of 30 mg·dm⁻³ was used (2.1 mm). The sucrose at the concentration 30 mg·dm⁻³ also promoted shoot length in the highest degree (4.3 mm), although there were no differences statistically. Carbohydrates used in the experiment did not have any effect on axillary shoots weight.

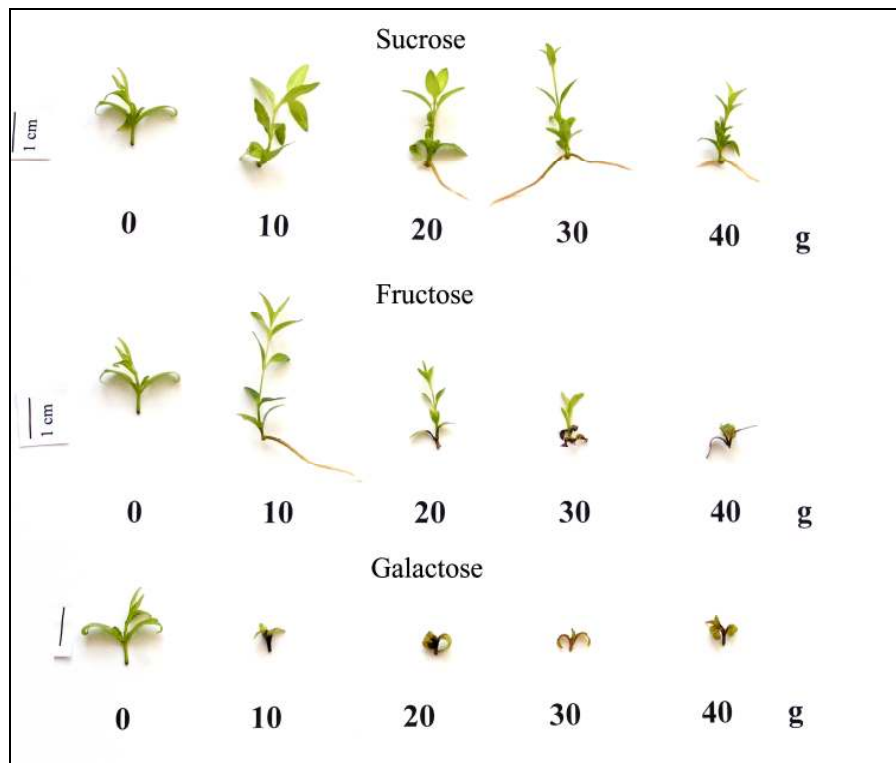
Table 2. The effect of carbohydrates and their concentration on *Clematis integrifolia* rooting *in vitro*

Type of carbohydrates	K		Sucrose			Fructose			Galactose				
Sugar concentration (g·dm ⁻³)	0	10	20	30	40	10	20	30	40	10	20	30	40
Percentage of rooted shoots	3 _a *	26 _a	31 _a	40 _a	46 _a	34 _a	3 _a	3 _a	3 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	3 _b		36 _a			11 _b			0 _b				
No. of roots	0.2 _a	0.7 _a	0.9 _a	0.9 _a	1.1 _a	0.8 _a	0.2 _a	0.2 _a	0.2 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	0.2 _b		0.9 _a			0.5 _{ab}			0 _b				
Root length (mm)	2.4 _a	5.9 _a	6.2 _a	6.8 _a	5.4 _a	10.5 _a	1.8 _a	2.2 _a	0.9 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	2.4 _{ab}		6.1 _a			3.8 _{ab}			0 _b				
Root weight (mg)	0.7 _a	2 _a	1.7 _a	2.3 _a	1.9 _a	3.2 _a	0.4 _a	0.6 _a	0.4 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a	0 _a
Mean	0.7 _{ab}		2.0 _a			1.1 _{ab}			0 _b				

K – Control

* Means followed by the same letter do not differ significantly

Callusing of shoots was observed on all media supplemented with fructose and sucrose. There were no statistical differences; however, the highest percentage of shoots that formed callus occurred on the media supplemented with sucrose at the concentration of 30 mg·dm⁻³ (43%) and it was similar to the result obtained with fructose at the concentration of 30 mg·dm⁻³ (40%). On the media not supplemented with sugar only 3% of shoots formed callus and in the presence of galactose there was no callusing at all. Callus of the highest weight was obtained while fructose at the concentrations of 20 and 30 mg·dm⁻³ was added to the media (3.1 mg each). Callus of the smallest weight formed when sugar was not added to the medium (0.2 mg) – Tab. 2, Phot. 1.



Phot. 1. The effect of carbohydrates and their concentration on *Clematis integrifolia* growth and development *in vitro*

Carbohydrates used in the experiment influenced the rooting of *Clematis integrifolia* as well. The highest percentage of rooted explants was obtained in the media supplemented with sucrose at the concentration of $40 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$ (46%). There was no rooting observed on the media supplemented with galactose. Sucrose at the concentration of $40 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$ promoted the number of roots formed (1.1 per shoot). Roots were the longest and of the biggest weight were observed in presence of fructose at the concentration of $10 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$ (10.5 mm and 3.2 mg respectively).

DISCUSSION

Several reports have demonstrated that the carbon source influences *in vitro* morphogenesis of different plant species [Taber *et al.* 1998, Biahoua and Bonneau 1999, Petersen *et al.* 1999, Fuentes *et al.* 2000].

In this study organogenesis was affected by the carbon source. The best results were obtained while sucrose was added to the media. Sucrose has been commonly used as a carbon source in tissue culture media [Petersen *et al.* 1999, Fuentes *et al.* 2000]. This

sugar is efficiently uptaken across the plasma membrane [Borkowska and Szczerba 1991]. Sucrose sugar occurred to be a suitable carbohydrate for many species, like *Vigna radiata* 'Wilczek' [Amutha *et al.* 2003], *Alnus acuminata* [Enrico *et al.* 2005] and *Prunus domestica* 'Węgierka Zwykła' [Nowak *et al.* 2004]. Sucrose is commonly used at the concentration of 20 and 30 g·dm⁻³ [Amutha *et al.* 2003, Nowak *et al.* 2004, Debnath 2005]. Fructose occurred to be a more suitable sugar for *Tibouchina* [Wnuk 2006] and *Morus latifolia* [Lu 2002].

CONCLUSIONS

1. Carbohydrates have an influence on the growth and development of explants in tissue cultures.
2. Sucrose is the most suitable sugar for micropropagation of *Clematis integrifolia*.
3. Sucrose at the concentration of 30 gm·dm⁻³ has the most positive effect on the formation of a good quality *Clematis integrifolia* axillary shoots.
4. The presence of sucrose in the media promotes formation of the roots.

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Streszczenie. Badano wpływ rodzaju i stężenia węglowodanów na wzrost i rozkrzewianie pędów powojnika całolistnego (*Clematis integrifolia* L.). Pędy wykorzystane w doświadczeniu pozyskiwano z ustabilizowanych kultur *in vitro* prowadzonych na zestalanej pożywce MS. Eksplantaty wykładano na pożywkę podstawową MS uzupełnioną 2 mg 2iP·dm⁻³ oraz 0,5 mg IAA·dm⁻³. Celem doświadczenia było zbadanie wpływu węglowodanów: sacharozy, fruktozy i galaktozy w stężeniach: 0, 10, 20, 30 i 40 g·dm⁻³ na wzrost i rozkrzewianie eksplantatów powojnika całolistnego. Na podstawie otrzymanych wyników stwierdzono, że węglowodany zastosowane w doświadczeniu wpłynęły na wzrost pędu głównego oraz rozkrzewianie powojnika całolistnego. Na wzrost pędu głównego najbardziej korzystny wpływ miała fruktoza w stężeniu 10 mg·dm⁻³. Rozkrzewianie pędu głównego w największym stopniu stymulowała sacharoza w stężeniu 30 mg·dm⁻³, w której obecności najwięcej pędów tworzyło pędy kątowe. W obecności tego węglowodanu powstawało najwięcej pędów kątowych, o największej długości i masie. Galaktoza we wszystkich użytych w doświadczeniu stężeniach wyraźnie hamowała wzrost i rozkrzewianie pędów powojnika całolistnego w kulturze *in vitro*.

Słowa kluczowe: węglowodany, powojnik całolistny, *in vitro*