

25

Effect of TDZ on Various Plant Cultures

Sandeep R. Pai and Neetin S. Desai

Abstract

This chapter provides the effect of thidiazuron (TDZ) on various plant cultures. Plant cell cultures still remain to be of great benefit to many disciplines including studies, viz., physiology, mechanism, etc. Apart from plant potency, this supremacy can be attributed to the increase in number of plant growth regulators (PGRs). Growth regulators are the mile stones in plant tissue culture history. Plant growth regulators depict some interesting functions; they singly, in synergy or antagonistically, function in growth of plant. Also, their concentrations play pivotal role in plant response. These PGRs are categorized in one of the five classes of plant hormones: auxins, gibberellins (GAs), cytokinins (CKs), ethylene (C₂H₄), and abscisic acid (ABA). In recent years apart from natural PGRs available, different synthetic PGRs are made available. The use of thidiazuron (N-phenyl-N'-1,2,3thiadiazol-5-ylurea) has been successfully demonstrated to promote axillary shoot proliferation and to encourage shoot formation in plants. Recalcitrant woody species have been great responders to TDZ, reason being its high cytokinin-like activity and better response. It facilitates initiation of multiple shoots in many recalcitrant woody tree species. It has been observed that lower concentrations (<1 µM) of TDZ show greater axillary proliferation compared to other cytokinins. Besides, it has many adverse effects on culture, viz., higher concentration of TDZ causes no shoot elongation. Thus, the present chapter reveals the effect of TDZ on various plant cultures.

Keywords

 $Thidiazuron \cdot Cytokinin \cdot Auxin \cdot Plant \ growth \ regulator \cdot Recalcitrant \cdot Woody$

439

S. R. Pai (🖂) · N. S. Desai

Amity Institute of Biotechnology (AIB), Amity University, Mumbai - Pune Expressway, Bhatan, Post – Somathne, Panvel, Mumbai 410206, Maharashtra, India e-mail: srpai@mum.amity.edu

[©] Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd. 2018

N. Ahmad, M. Faisal (eds.), *Thidiazuron: From Urea Derivative to Plant Growth Regulator*, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-8004-3_25

25.1 Introduction

Humans have a great deal of allure toward plants, due to obvious inclusions of many of them in food, clothing, medicine, and other purposes. Researchers have been studying on various aspects of the plants to understand their system. Optimization on availability of the plants throughout the season has been one among the many other challenges which has been answered efficiently. With the emergence of bio-technology, the things have been easy, especially plant tissue culture has played a pivotal role in optimizing the yield of plants. This was only possible by learning that plant growth can be regulated by adding some chemicals. Initial studies demonstrated that substances isolated from human urine can regulate the plant growth, which was later identified as indole acetic acid, a substance that had been known for decades (Mitchell and Rice 1942).

Cytokinins comprise of a separate class of growth promoters; they stimulate synthesis of proteins and actively take part in cell cycle control. Perhaps due to which they thought to promote chloroplast maturation and delay senescence in plants. Cytokinins when applied to plant tissue, biochemically, causes the treated part to act as a sink for amino acids, which then migrates to the nearby sites (George et al. 2008), thus causing the most noticeable effect of cytokinin in the tissue. They are always used in ratio with auxin to encourage cell division and manage morphogenesis. They are known to overcome apical dominance and proclaim lateral buds from dormant tissues.

25.2 Thidiazuron as Cytokinin

Naturally occurring cytokinin compounds and their derivatives are available in market. Kinetin was the first cytokinin to be discovered at professor Skoog's laboratory in the University of Wisconsin. This came out as a result out of the experiemnts to promote continuing growth of the callus which formed on tobacco stem sections in vitro. Further, as George et al. (2008) mentions that chromatography of alcoholsoluble yeast extract fractions proved to be purine, researches for supplementary sources of purines were evaluated to observe the potency toward callus growth. Until then, extracts of herring sperm DNA showed a molecule with similar spectrum and chemical behavior. Its isolation and crystallization from DNA samples under acidic conditions lead to a new growth factor "kinetin." This molecule stimulated cell division in cells which otherwise might have become multinuclear (Miller et al. 1955a, b; Miller 1961a, b) and was later identified as 6-furfuryl aminopurine. Skoog et al. (1965) proposed the general term "cytokinin" to envelop all molecules that show such similar activity.

Kinetin is not accepted as natural cytokinin and has arisen as structural rearrangements in original isolates (Hecht 1980). There are many cytokinins naturally available and identified which structurally resemble to kinetin. They are structurally either freebases, glucosides, ribosides, or nucleotides of kinetin (Entsch et al. 1980). Their utility in plant tissue culture work has been widely studied, viz., trans-zeatin (4-hydroxy-3-methyltrans-2-butenylaminopurine), iP (N6- Δ 2isopentenyladenine), and dihydrozeatin (6-(4-hydroxy-3-methyl-trans-2-butenyl)aminopurine).

Higher costs of natural cytokinins (iP and zeatin) make them an unpopular choice for commercial routine laboratory practices; however, they are still a popular choice in research laboratories. Substituted purines and phenyl urea are two largely vouched groups of synthetic cytokinins, prevalent due to their potent cytokinin-like properties. Synthetic derivatives of natural occurring cytokinins are extremely potent; they chiefly include N6-substituted adenine derivatives. There are few other molecules to structurally similar but possess some extent such activity. such as 4-alkylaminopteridines (Iwamura et al. 1980a, b) and 6-benzyloxypurines. Some of these analogues are reported to be more active than kinetin or benzyladenine (BA) and are particularly effective in promoting morphogenesis (Wilcox et al. 1978, 1981). The 1-deaza analogue of zeatin riboside (Rogozinska et al. 1973; Rodaway and Lutz 1985; Kaminek et al. 1987) also has cytokinin activity. Current-day literature suggests that BA and its derivatives are widely accepted forms of cytokinins. Topolin is one such derived group which is aromatic and naturally occurring cytokinins.

Natural cytokinin, viz., yeast extract or coconut milk, is used in media as organic supplements. Shantz and Steward (1955) demonstrated that they contain physiologically active substances including natural cytokinin zeatin and 1,3-diphenylurea. The two molecules in the same series are 2Cl-4PU (N-(2-chloro-4-pyridyl)-N'phenylurea) and 2,6Cl-4PU (N-(2,6-dichloro-4-pyridyl)-N'-phenylurea), which is supposed to be the most active.

A thiadiazole-substituted phenylurea, thidiazuron (TDZ) (N-phenyl-N'-1,2,3-thiadiazol-5-ylurea) which was earlier registered as a cotton defoliant (Arndt et al. 1976) with the product name "Dropp," has demonstrated high cytokinin activity (Mok et al. 1982). Diphenylurea is a rather weakly active cytokinin (Bottomley et al. 1963; Miller 1960; Strong 1956), but particular derivatives of N-phenyl-N'-4-pyridylurea exhibit cytokinin activity equal to or exceeding that of zeatin in the tobacco callus bioassay (Takahashi et al. 1978).

Mok and coworkers (1982) studied cytokinin property of TDZ on *Phaseolus* species. The experiment was part of their study on cytokinin metabolism in species (Mok et al. 1978, 1979, 1980; Armstrong et al. 1981); they examined effects of TDZ and other substituted urea compounds on the growth of cytokinin-dependent callus tissues of *Phaseolus lunatus* cv. Kingston. It was understood that TDZ has more potent cytokinin activity compared to N-phenyl-N'-4-pyridylureaderivatives and most other active cytokinins of adenine type. It was also concluded that there are two derived classes of urea, (i) pyridylurea and (ii) thiadiazolyl urea, comprising of various compounds with cytokinin activity. It was also mentioned that these activities were equivalent or exceeding to that of the most active cytokinins of the adenine type (Mok et al. 1982).

25.3 Chemistry

In recent years, TDZ appeared as a very effectual PGR in plant tissue culture experiments for a wide range of species like herbs, shrubs, climbers, crop plants, and majorly trees (Murthy et al. 1998). Thidiazuron had a commercial impact for its strongest use in defoliating leaves to facilitate collection of bolls from cotton plant (Arndt et al. 1976). It has also proved to protect chlorophyll from degradation in detached leaves. TDZ exhibits a high level of activity at concentrations as low as 10 pM for a relatively short period (Bakulev et al.). Chemically it is 1-phenyl-3-(1,2,3thiadiazol-5-yl)urea. It has been demonstrated to have herbicidal properties. TDZ has a chemical formula C₉H₈N₄OS, molar mass of 220.251 g/mol, and density of 1.51 g/cm³. Structurally it is different from both auxins and adenine-type cytokinins. It possesses two functional groups, phenyl and thiadiazole. It has been demonstrated that replacement or modifications in these groups will result in reduction of kinin activity of TDZ.

Thomas and Katterman (1986) demonstrated dose-dependent effect of thidiazuron in radish and soybean. They concluded that the general growth and cell division stimulation become saturated at low levels of TDZ. That is, TDZ was 10^2 times more effective in the radish and 10^4 times more effective in soybean compared to purine cytokinins (Thomas and Katterman 1986).

As per physical chemistry guidelines, TDZ is found as colorless, odorless crystals, white to yellow in color. It has a melting point of 210.5 °C and a vapor pressure of 4×10^{-6} mPa (25 °C). It is soluble in water at a rate of 31 mg/L in a neutral condition (pH 7) with temperature of 25 °C and also soluble in organic solvents (hexane, 0.002; methanol, 4.20; dichloromethane, 0.003; toluene, 0.400; acetone, 6.67; ethyl acetate, 1.1 g/L 20 °C). Interestingly it has been written that TDZ rapidly gets converted to photoisomer, 1-phenyl-3-(1,2.5-thiadiazol-3-yl)urea in the presence of light ($\lambda > 290$ nm). TDZ is hydrolytically stable at room temperatures, at pH 5.9.

25.4 Mode of Action

TDZ has been used singly or in synergy with other PGRs, mainly auxins. Positive effects on culture of *Geranium* by replacing auxin and cytokinin with TDZ have been successfully been demonstrated (Visser et al. 1992). Further studies elucidated role of TDZ in induction and regeneration in many species (Murthy and Saxena 1998). Not only this but the recalcitrant cultures successfully responded and regenerated to TDZ (Malik and Saxena 1992b; Murthy and Saxena 1998).

The flow of actions on treatment of TDZ involves reprogramming and expression of morphological and genetic cell competent to undergo development which further leads to morphogenesis. Studies have showed association of TDZ in metabolism of PGRs. TDZ earlier was categorized as cytokinin; this was because of its natural cytokinin-like response. Metabolism of endogenous plant growth regulators has a direct relation to the presence of TDZ during morphogenesis and regulates endogenous growth. The role of TDZ in morphogenesis is intimately related to the

Fig. 25.1 Chemical structure of TDZ (Source: https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm. nih.gov/compound/thidiaz uron#section=Top)



metabolism of endogenous growth regulators. In some independent experiments, increased levels of endogenous auxin, ethylene, and ABA were recorded in response to TDZ treatment (Murthy et al. 1995; Yip and Yang 1986; Capelle et al. 1983; Thomas and Katterman 1986; Mok et al. 1987; Ji and Wang 1988; Hutchinson and Saxena 1996b) (Fig. 25.1).

Actions of TDZ have been discussed by many workers in details; referring to most of the articles, it feels like TDZ can be compared in following ways to the classical PGRs to understand the exact mechanisms (Fig. 25.2).

25.4.1 Cytokinin-Like Action

According to Mok et al. (1982), TDZ holds cytokinin-like activity, and also in several other bioassays, the application of TDZ elicited effects in association with cytokinins (Thomas and Katterman 1986; Visser et al. 1995). There are reports suggesting TDZ promoted synthesis and/or accumulation of endogenous cytokinins (Thomas and Katterman 1986; Murthy et al. 1995; Hutchinson and Saxena 1996b). Kefford et al. (1968) reported that this may potentially occur due to (a) increase in synthesis, (b) decrease in catabolism, or (c) release of biologically active cytokinin molecules from non-active storage forms. Interconversion of labeled cytokinin ribonucleosides and ribonucleotides in the presence of TDZ and zeatin was studied by Mok et al. (1987)). Here, TDZ inhibited formation of nucleotides, whereas zeatin sustained in production of nucleotides from ribonucleosides. This indicated involvement of TDZ in regulating metabolism for production of endogenous cytokinins (Mok et al. 1987). Its cytokinin-like action was also evident when tissue of Phaseolus *lunatus* callus proliferated on medium with TDZ and on a cytokinin-free medium. This indicated positive alteration and involvement of TDZ in pathways for production of cytokinin-active adenine derivatives bearing N6-isoprenoid side chains (Capelle et al. 1983).



Fig. 25.2 Various PGR-like actions of TDZ

Thidiazuron is structurally dissimilar to any other naturally occurring cytokinins especially purine based. Further, its action to induce somatic embryogenesis (SE) makes it different from any other purine-based cytokinins, wherein the later alone has never been reported to induce SE. Therefore, properties of TDZ might be apparent via different mechanisms. The biological responses induced with purine-based cytokinins and phenylureas in the presence of competitive inhibitors and the measurement of a relationship between activity and structure suggested a common site of action for these two groups of growth regulators (Kefford et al. 1968; Iwamura et al. 1980b). Recently, Nagata et al. (1993) isolated a cytokinin-specific binding protein (CSBP) for CPPU, a phenylurea derivative, was higher than that for BA. This finding clearly demonstrated the existence of a common cytokinin-specific binding protein for both types of compounds.

25.4.2 Auxin-Like Action

Auxins have a vital role in differentiation of cell aggregates which are preliminary requirement for regeneration. TDZ has proved to induce SE in *Arachis hypogea* and *Azadirachta indica* (Murthy and Saxena 1998). In an independent study, Murthy et al. (1995) observed de novo synthesis of auxins in peanut seedlings grown on TDZ-containing medium. It was observed that there was an increased level of IAA and other monoamine alkaloid compound tryptamine in cytoplasm. It was further observed that the use of PCIB (2-(p-chlorophenoxy)-2-methylpropionic acid) popularly known as clofibric acid which is a herbicide functioning against auxin biosynthesis, for reduction of TDZ-induced somatic embryogenesis in both *Geranium* (Hutchinson et al. 1996) and *Arachis hypogea*. Similarly, TIBA (2, 3, 5-triiodobenzoic acid), an inhibitor of polar auxin transport (Thomson et al. 1973), reduced SE but failed to decrease auxin levels in TDZ-treated plant tissues (Hutchinson et al. 1996).

25.4.3 Ethylene-Like Action

Promotive and inhibitory effects of ethylene in somatic embryogenesis have been reported (Biddington 1992). Supplementation of media with TDZ for induction of *Geranium* somatic embryogenesis results in elevated levels of ethylene in the space of culture vessel (Hutchinson et al. 1997a). On the other hand, decrease in ethylene level by its inhibitor AVG (aminoethoxyvinylglycine) improved the embryogenic response in geranium hypocotyls. Thus, indicating ethylene can be produced as a negative by-product of TDZ-mediated metabolic cascade (Hutchinson et al. 1997a). Utilization of exogenous ethylene or 1-aminocyclopropane-l-carboxylic acid, an ethylene forerunner, diminished the embryogenic result to an undistinguished level as observed in the TDZ-actuated culture (Hutchinson et al. 1997a). Auxin-like metabolic response of TDZ was based on the observation of Suttle (1985, 1986) on 2-(p-chlorophenoxy)-2-methylpropionic acid (PCIB) that inhibited TDZ-mediated ethylene production in cotton. Since auxin treatment additionally brought about expanded ethylene generation (Suttle 1984; Yip and Yang 1986), it is conceivable to infer that the leaf abscission may not be an immediate aftereffect of TDZ treatment yet rather a consequence of the auxin reaction instigated by TDZ.

25.4.4 Gibberellin-Like Action

There are not really any reports observed on coordinated balance of endogenous gibberellins by TDZ. In any case, a few reports propose change of TDZ-prompted somatic embryogenesis in geraniums (Hutchinson et al. 1997b) by GA synthesis inhibitors (triazoles and ancymidol), supporting that gibberellins are affected by TDZ. Legume seedlings growing on TDZ medium exhibited stunted growth habit (Murthy et al. 1995, 1998); also foliar spray or soil drenching of TDZ significantly

affected stem elongation making them stunted in ginseng and geranium (Sanago et al. 1995; Proctor et al. 1996). Woody plants regenerating into adventitious shoots on TDZ medium will be dwarf with short internodes (Lu 1993; Pai et al. 2017), which indicates changed metabolism in gibberellins. Although to what extent it explains connection of TDZ with gibberellins remains to be the area to be examined.

25.5 Thidiazuron and Its Applications

European Union banned the use of thidiazuron in agriculture. It was one of the agricultural chemicals in the framework of the European Pesticides Directive 91/414/ EEC that must have an environmental and health assessment to obtain a new authorization (Wikipedia). In spite of the fact being known that TDZ is modestly poisonous to fish and aquatic organisms and also that it is not easily biodegradable, yet it is utilized in different parts of the world, including United States, Australia, and Mexico. Since it is not extremely toxic to birds or bees, the World Health Organization has made substance classification as: "It was rated unlikely to present acute hazard in normal use."

25.5.1 Plant-Based Applications

Each living cell of a plant body has a capacity to grow into a whole plant (totipotency) by means of de novo formation of organs or somatic embryos. Plant growth substances (viz., auxins and cytokinins) mainly regulate the whole process of acquisition of competency, dedifferentiation, and redifferentiation. Further, the above processes in tissue cell cultures are effectively governed by TDZ singly or in combination with other PGRs.

25.5.1.1 Callus Formation

The presence of auxins in cell culture media helps in the induction of cell proliferation and callus growth. Weedicides such as 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid along with other synthetic auxins [naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) and others] have successfully and extensively been utilized in tissue culture. The importance of another synthetic compound "TDZ" has been observed in the induction of callus formation in assorted plant cultures, which has also exhibited higher rate of cell proliferation compared to other PGRs. For example, TDZ induced a 30-fold increase in the growth of callus cultures over other plant growth regulators (Capelle et al. 1983). In addition, the callus absorbed less TDZ than other plant growth regulators, thereby indicating a relatively high intrinsic activity of TDZ (Capelle et al. 1983). Apart from its cytokinin-like activity, TDZ is also used in the formation of callus. Table 25.1 enlists few such recent examples of plants in which TDZ has been used in combination with other PGRs from production or maintenance of callus.

Plant name	TDZ (mg/l)	Other PGR (mg/l)	References
Phalaenopsis spp.	0.5	2,4 D (0.5)	Chen et al. (2000)
Crocus spp.	4.0	NAA (4.0)	Verma et al. (2016)
Aconitum balfourii	0.5	NAA (1.0)	Gondval et al. (2016)
Fragaria × ananassa	0.2 and 0.5	2, 4 D (0.02)	Cappelletti et al. (2016)
Hypericum triquetrifolium	0.4	IAA (0.5)	Azeez et al. (2017)
Curcuma soloensis	2.5 uM	BA (1.2 uM), 2, 4 D	Zhang et al. (2011)
		(1.2 uM)	
Cymbidium spp.	0.01	NAA (0.1)	Huan et al. (2004)
Artemisia absinthium	2.0	NAA (1.0)	Tariq et al. (2014)
Digitalis spp.	0.5	IAA (0.25)	Cingoz et al. (2014)
Mangosteen	2.25 uM	BA (2.22)	Te-chato and Lim
			(2000)

 Table 25.1
 Use of TDZ in formation of callus

25.5.1.2 Shoot Formation

There is generous confirmation that TDZ not only helps in the induction of bud (axillary) break and production of adventitious buds but also plays a major role in shoot production of diverse crops ranging from tropical fruit trees to roots and tuber crops. Medium fortified with high levels of cytokinins used for culturing explants stimulates multiple shoots or bud formation. A comprehensive review of plants that have been micropropagated using TDZ as growth regulator has been published (Huetteman and Preece 1993; Lu 1993). TDZ has been effectively utilized in regeneration of wood plant species (Briggs et al. 1988; Preece and Imel 1991; Baker and Bhatia 1993), but without the help of high concentration of adenine type of cytokinins, organogenesis is not possible. Also, TDZ has been utilized adequately in species in which purine-type cytokinins were incapable. In any case, there have been reports of issues with transformation of TDZ-induced shoots into complete plantlets, poor shoot elongation, and inadequate rooting (Huetteman and Preece 1993; Lu 1993). This debilitated development of TDZ-induced regenerants may come about because of utilization of supraoptimal levels of TDZ in the media or the presence of the compound in cultured tissues. Table 25.2 provides an insight in the published recent literature, wherein TDZ has been used in shoot formation.

25.5.1.3 Somatic Embryogenesis

Exogenous auxin to cytokinin ratio plays an important role in production of embryogenetic tissues especially somatic embryos. TDZ singly has been found to substitute for both the auxin and cytokinin prerequisite of substantial embryogenesis in numerous species (Saxena et al. 1992; Visser et al. 1992; Gill et al. 1993). Addition of TDZ in culture media invigorated in vitro somatic embryogenesis in *Nicotiana* (Gill et al. 1993), *Arachis hypogea* (Saxena et al. 1992; Murthy et al. 1995), geranium (Visser et al. 1992), chickpea (Murthy et al. 1996), neem (Murthy and Saxena 1998), and St. John's wort (Murch et al. unpublished information), at a significantly higher rate compared to the known phytohormones. In different cases, concurrent

		1 1	
Plant name	TDZ (mg/l)	Other PGRs (mg/l)	References
Phalaenopsis spp.	0.5	2,4 D (0.5)	Chen et al. (2000)
Aconitum balfourii	0.5	-	Gondval et al. (2016)
Solanum tuberosum	2.0	-	Sherkar and Chavan
Oryza sativa	0.5	BAP (0.5), Kn (1.5), NAA (0.5)	Dina et al. (2016)
Brassica oleracea	0.33 and 0.088	Adenine (79.70) and IAA (0.22)	Gambhir et al. (2017)
Curcuma soloensis	2.5 uM	BA (9.0 μM), NAA (1.2 μM)	Zhang et al. (2011)
Swertia lawii	3.0	IBA (0.3)	Kshirsagar et al. (2015)
Ancistrocladus heyneanus	6.81 uM	BAP (13.31 uM)	Pai et al. (2008)
Achyranthes aspera	0.1	BAP (3.0)	Pai et al. (2017)
Strawberry	0.5	2, 4 D (0.02)	Cappelletti et al. (2016)
Blueberry	0.5	2iP (0.2)	Cappelletti et al. (2016)
Agapanthus praecox	4.5 uM	BA (22.2 uM), IAA (2.9 uM)	Baskaran and Van Staden (2013)

Table 25.2 Use of TDZ in shoot formation in different plant species

production of shoots and somatic embryos has additionally been recorded (Bates et al. 1992). Despite the fact that the activity of TDZ as a cytokinin-like compound is all around archived, the previously mentioned reports of somatic embryogenesis give proof to a part of TDZ in regulation of auxin metabolism, as the enlistment of somatic embryogenesis is a response usually connected with auxins.

A novel arrangement of TDZ-induced regeneration is the improvement of somatic embryos on intact seedlings (Malik and Saxena 1992b). Somatic embryos developed at various sites on intact pea, peanut, and chickpea seedlings germinated on TDZ-fortified media. In purine cytokinin BA (N 6-benzyladenine) utilization as a part of a similar procedure, de novo shoots appeared at the regenerative area, demonstrating that the TDZ-initiated somatic embryogenesis is not exclusively a cytokinin-dependent response. Despite the fact that the seedling culture system was initially produced for recovering substantial seeded legumes, viz., pea, bean, and peanut, this system has been therefore utilized as a part of a wide assortment of different plants including geranium (Quresbi and Saxena 1992) and neem (Murthy and Saxena 2015). The following table depicts the use of different concentrations of TDZ along with other PGRs to achieve somatic embryos (Table 25.3).

25.5.1.4 Protoplast Culture

Plant regeneration from protoplasts more often than not continues through a callus stage; in any case, somatic embryogenesis might be started from the protoplastderived cells (Song et al. 1990). The significance of the nearness of both auxin and cytokinin in the cultures to stimulate protoplast division and development is well studied (Cook and Meyer 1981), and henceforth, most protoplast culture media contain mixture of auxins and cytokinins. TDZ (in combination with auxins like NAA,

TDZ (mg/l)	Other PGRs (mg/l)	References
2.0	IAA (2.0) + BAP (2.0)	Verma et al. (2016)
0.5	BAP (2.0)	Rohela et al. (2016)
1 uM	2, 4 D (0.5 uM)	Baskaran and Van Staden (2017)
2.0	IAA (2.0)	Verma et al. (2016)
6.80	2, 4 D (3.39)	Mahendran and Bai (2016)
2.5 uM	Picloram (2.00 uM)	Devi et al. (2014)
1.0 uM	Picloram (2.50 uM)	Kumar et al. (2016)
1.0	IAA (0.5)	Verma et al. (2012)
10.0 uM	-	Singh et al. (2003)
1.0 uM	-	Gairi and Rashid (2004)
	TDZ (mg/l) 2.0 0.5 1 uM 2.0 6.80 2.5 uM 1.0 uM 1.0 1.0 uM 1.0 uM	TDZ (mg/l) Other PGRs (mg/l) 2.0 IAA (2.0) + BAP (2.0) 0.5 BAP (2.0) 1 uM 2, 4 D (0.5 uM) 2.0 IAA (2.0) 6.80 2, 4 D (3.39) 2.5 uM Picloram (2.00 uM) 1.0 uM Picloram (2.50 uM) 1.0 uM – 1.0 uM –

 Table 25.3
 Use of TDZ in induction of somatic embryos in various plant species

naphthoxyacetic acid (NOA), or 2,4-D) at various levels (0.001–20 btM) has been utilized amid introductory periods of cell wall formation around protoplasts, initiation of cell division (Chupeau et al. 1993; Reustle et al. 1995), and in later stages to complete the recovery from protoplast-derived callus (Lenzner et al. 1995). Wallin and Johansson (1989) showed that TDZ supported division of leaf protoplasts of apple at a superior rate than either BA or zeatin. Likewise, TDZ was more viable than kinetin and zeatin for development of willow (*Salix viminalis* L.) protoplast cultures (Vahala and Eriksson 1991). Chupeau et al. (1993) reported that TDZ was more successful at lower levels compared to adenine-type cytokinins. The role of TDZ in induction of regeneration from protoplast cultures is by all accounts to a great extent a cytokinin-like response, yet the correct mechanism for this impact stays undetermined.

25.5.1.5 In Vivo Regeneration

The effectiveness of TDZ as an inductive molecule for morphogenesis is not restricted to tissue culture systems. Sanago et al. (1995) found that TDZ actuated the arrangement of regenerative outgrowths on root tissues and adventitious shoots at the crown region of greenhouse-grown geraniums. Also, pot-developed *Spathiphyllum* plants splashed with TDZ created countless shoots, both at and beneath soil levels (Henny 1995). Proctor et al. (1996) observed the arrangement of adventitious buds on the shoulders of ginseng tap roots when TDZ was applied either as foliar shower or soil soaked. This solid relationship among TDZ and morphogenic forms instigated in vitro and in vivo is exclusive to the molecule and gives a few experimental systems for surveying the biochemical responses to TDZ and additionally researching the variables that manage plant morphogenesis.

Thidiazuron does not degrade by cytokinin oxidase and is stable (Mok et al. 1987). It is considered more active compared to BAP or zeatin, and a lower concentration of it is effective in tissue culture experiments. TDZ is more efficient in most of the species yet had made a noteworthy accomplishment in woody species. A portion of the impediments revealed in a few species include hyperhydricity of shoots

(Debergh et al. 1992; Briggs et al. 1988; Cousineau and Donnelly 1991), anomalous leaf morphology (van Nieuwkerk et al. 1986; Cambecedes et al. 1991), shorter internodes and smaller shoots (Fasolo et al. 1989; Meyer and van Staden 1988; Desai et al. 2016), and trouble in prolongation and establishing of recovered shoots (Meyer and Kerns 1986; Meyer and van Staden 1988). In such cases, hyperhydricity can be overwhelmed by utilizing unlocked profound petri dishes in the shoot initiation stage, vented caps in the shoot lengthening stage, or higher levels of gelling agent. Shoot quality can be enhanced by utilizing a mixture of TDZ and purine cytokinin (Briggs et al. 1988). Preece and Imel (1991) accounted that the majority of shoots regenerated on TDZ medium were short, yet elongated after shifting them to medium containing IBA and 2iP. To overcome other issues mentioned above, explants ought to be prompted with the most minimal successful TDZ concentration and continued TDZ medium for the slightest time that is required for each species (Lu 1993). In another investigation, Pawar et al. (2015) discovered unfavorable impact of TDZ on nature of callus and content of proline and glutamine in rice.

Conclusively, in years of its usage since its revelation, TDZ has demonstrated to advance in its application from basic cytokinin to every single other feature of plant tissue culture. Impact of any PGR rely upon many factors as fixation, levels of different endogenous PGR, ecological conditions, signaling factors, and for the most part affectability of plant species. In this manner, it is hard to anticipate the activity of exogenous utilization of any PGR including TDZ for new plant system. A scrutiny of writing uncovers that it has effectively been utilized to induce axillary or adventitious shoot multiplication in various plant species including herbaceous and perennials. Less has been comprehended about the activity of TDZ on morphogenesis and furthermore its biochemical and physiological basis. In any case, studies done on different species and tissue culture response of TDZ have laid more extensive application in plant tissue culture.

Acknowledgement Authors are indebted to the Head of Amity University, Mumbai.

References

- Armstrong DJ, Kim SG, Mok MC, Mok DWS (1981) Genetic regulation of cytokinin metabolism in *Phaseolus* tissue cultures. In: Caud-Lenoel C, Guern J (eds) Metabolism and molecular activities of Cytokinins. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, p 97
- Arndt F, Rusch R, Stilfried HV (1976) SN 49537, a new cotton defoliant. Plant Physiol 57:99
- Azeez H, Ibrahim K, Pop R, Pamfil D, Hârţa M, Bobiş O (2017) Changes induced by gamma ray irradiation on biomass production and secondary metabolites accumulation in *Hypericum triquetrifolium* Turra callus cultures. Ind Crop Prod 108:183–189
- Baker BS, Bhatia SK (1993) Factors effecting adventitious shoot regeneration from leaf explants of quince (*Cydonia oblmga*). Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 35:273–277
- Baskaran P, Van Staden J (2013) Rapid in vitro micropropagation of *Agapanthus praecox* South Afr. Aust J Bot 86:46–50
- Baskaran P, Van Staden J (2017) Ultrastructure of somatic embryo development and plant propagation for *Lachenalia Montana*. South Afr J Bot 109:269–274

- Bates S, Preece JE, Navarrete NE, Sarnbeek JW, van Gafbey GR, Van Sambeek JW (1992) Thidianiron stimulates shoot organogenesis and somatic embryogenesis in white ash (*Frmims aimericana* L). Plant Cell Tiss Organ Cult 31:21–29
- Biddington NL (1992) The influence of ethylene in plant tissue culture. Pl Growth Regul 11:173–187
- Bottomley W, Kefford NP, Zwar JA, Goldacre PL (1963) Kinin activity from plant extracts. I. Biological assays and sources of activity. Aust J Biol Sci 16:395
- Briggs BA, McCulloch SM, Edick LA (1988) Micropropagation of azaleas using thidiazuron. Acta Hortic 226:205–208
- Cambecedes J, Duron M, Decourtye L (1991) Adventitious bud regeneration from leaf explants of the shrubby ornamental honeysuckle, *Lonicera nitida* Wils. cv. 'Maigrun': effects of thidiazuron and 2,3,5-triiodobenzoic acid. Plant Cell Rep 10:471–474
- Capelle SC, Mok DWS, Kirchner SC, Mok MC (1983) Effects of TDZ on cytokinin autonomy and the metabolism of N6-(DELTA2-isopentenyl) [8-14C] adenosine in callus tissues of *Phaseolus lunatus* L. Plant Physiol 73:796–802
- Cappelletti R, Sabbadini S, Mezzetti B (2016) The use of TDZ for the efficient in vitro regeneration and organogenesis of strawberry and blueberry cultivars. Sci Hortic 207:117–124
- Chen Y, Chang C, Chang W (2000) A reliable protocol for plant regeneration from callus culture of *Phalaenopsis*. In Vitro Cell Dev Bio Plant 36(5):420–423
- Chupeau MC, Lemoine M, Chupeau Y (1993) Requirement of thidianiron for healthy protoplast development to efficient tree regeneration of a hybrid poplar (*Poplus tremziia x P. alba*). J Plant Physiol 141:601–609
- Cingoz GS, Verma SK, Gurel E (2014) Hydrogen peroxide-induced antioxidant activities and cardiotonic glycoside accumulation in callus cultures of endemic *Digitalis* species. Plant Physiol Biochemist 82:89–94
- Cousineau JC, Donnelly DJ (1991) Adventitious shoot regeneration from leaf explants of tissue cultured and greenhouse-grown raspberry. Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 27:249–255
- Debergh P, Aitken-Christie J, Cohen D, Grout B, Arnold S, von Zimmerman R, Ziv M (1992) Reconsideration of the term 'vitrification' as used in micropropagation. Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 30:135–140
- Desai M, Pramod HJ, Upadhya V, Sailo L, Hegde HV, Pai SR (2016) In vitro rapid multiplication protocol for ex situ conservation of the rare, endemic medicinal plant *Achyranthes coynei*. Planta Med Lett 3(04):e87–e90
- Devi K, Sharma M, Ahuja PS (2014) Direct somatic embryogenesis with high frequency plantlet regeneration and successive cormlet production in saffron (*Crocus sativus* L.) South Afr J Bot 93:207–216
- Dina ARJM, Ahmad FI, Wagiran A, Samad AA, Rahmat Z, Sarmidi MR (2016) Improvement of efficient in vitro regeneration potential of mature callus induced from Malaysian upland rice seed (*Oryza sativa* cv. Panderas). Saudi J Biol Sci 23(1):S69–S77
- Entsch B, Letham DS, Parker CW, Summons RE & Gollnow BI (1980) Metabolites of cytokinins (Skoog, ed), pp 109–118
- Fasolo F, Zimmerman RH, Fordham I (1989) Adventitious shoot formation on excised leaves of in vitro grown shoots of apple cultivars. Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 16:75–87
- Gairi A, Rashid A (2004) Direct differentiation of somatic embryos on different regions of intact seedlings of *Azadirachta* in response to thidiazuron. J Plant Physiol 161(9):1073–1077
- Gambhir G, Kumar P, Srivastava DK (2017) High frequency regeneration of plants from cotyledon and hypocotyl cultures in *Brassica oleracea* cv. Pride of India. Biotech Rep 15:107–113
- George EF, Hall MA, Klerk GJD (2008) Plant growth regulators II: cytokinins, their analogues and antagonists. In: George EF, Hall MA, Klerk GJD (eds) Plant propagation by tissue culture. Springer, Dordrecht
- Gill R, Gerrath JM, Saxena PK (1993) High-frequency direct somatic embryogenesis in thin layer cultures of hybrid seed geranium (*Pelargonium X hortorum*). Can J Bot 71:408–413

- Gondval M, Chaturvedi P, Gaur AK (2016) Thidiazuron induced high frequency establishment of callus cultures and plantlet regeneration in *Aconitum balfourii* Stapf.: an endangered medicinal herb of North-West Himalayas. Indian J Biotechnol 15:251–255
- Hecht SM (1980) Probing the cytokinin receptor site(s) (Skoog F, ed), pp 144-160
- Henny RI (1995) Thidiazuron increases basal bud and shoot development in *Spathiphyllum* 'petite'. Plant Growth Reg Soc Ame Quart 23:13–16
- Huan LVT, Takamura T, Tanaka M (2004) Callus formation and plant regeneration from callus through somatic embryo structures in Cymbidium orchid. Plant Sci 166(6):1443–1449
- Huetteman CA, Preece JE (1993) Thidiazuron: a potent cytokinin for woody plant tissue culture. Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 33:105–119
- Hutchinson MJ, Saxena PK (1996b) Role of purine metabolism in TDZ-induced somatic embryogenesis of geranium (*Pelargonium X hortorum*) hypocotyls cultures. Physiol Plant 98:517–522
- Hutchinson MJ, Murr DP, Krishnaraj S, Senaratna T, Saxena PK (1997a) Does ethylene play a role in TDZ-regulated somatic embryogenesis of geranium (*Pelargonium X hortorum*) hypocotyl cultures. In Vitro Cell Dev Biol 33P:136–141
- Hutchinson MJ, Krishnaraj S, Saxena PK (1997b) Inhibitory effect of GA z on the development of TDZ-induced somatic embryogenesis of geranium (*Pelargonium X hortorum*) hypocotyl cultures. Plant Cell Rep 16:435–438
- Iwamura H, Masuda N, Koshimizu K, Matsubara S (1980a) Effects of 4-alkylaminopteridines on tobacco callus growth. Plant Sci Lett 20:15–18
- Iwamura H, Fujita T, Koyama S, Koshimizu K, Kumazawa Z (1980b) Quantitative structure-activity relationship of cytokinin-active adenine and urea derivatives. Phytochemistry 19:1309–1319
- Ji ZL, Wang SY (1988) Reduction of abscisic acid content and induction of sprouting in potato, Solanum tuberosum L., by TDZ. J Plant Growth Regul 7:37–44
- Kaminek M, Vanek T, Motyka V (1987) Cytokinin activities of N6 -benzyladenosine derivatives hydroxylated on the side-chain phenyl ring. J Plant Growth Regul 6:113–120
- Kefford NP, Zwar JA, Bruce MI (1968) Antagonism of purine and urea cytokinin activities by derivatives of benzylurea. In: Wightman F, Setterfield G (eds) Biochemistry and physiology of plant growth substances. Runge Press, Ottawa, pp 61–69
- Kshirsagar PR, Chavan JJ, Umdale SD, Nimbalkar MS, Dixit GB, Gaikwad NB (2015) Highly efficient in vitro regeneration, establishment of callus and cell suspension cultures and RAPD analysis of regenerants of *Swertia lawii* Burkill. Biotech Rep 6:79–84
- Kumar V, Moyo M, Van Staden J (2016) Enhancing plant regeneration of *Lachenalia viridiflora*, a critically endangered ornamental geophyte with high floricultural potential. Sci Hortic 211:263–268
- Lenzner S, Zoglauer K, Schieder O (1995) Plant regeneration from protoplasts of sugar beet (*Beta vulgaris*). Physiol Plant 94:342–350
- Lu C (1993) The use of thidiazuron in tissue culture. In Vitro Cell Dev Biol 29:92-96
- Mahendran G, Bai VN (2016) Direct somatic embryogenesis of *Malaxis densiflora* (A. Rich.) Kuntze J Genet Eng Biotechnol 14(1):77–81
- Malik KA, Saxena PK (1992b) TDZ induces high-frequency shoot regeneration in intact seedlings of pea (*Pisum sativum*), chickpea (*Cicer arietinum*), and lentil (*Lens culinaris*). Aust J Plant Physiol 19:731–740
- Meyer MM, Kerns HR (1986) Thidiazuron and in vitro shoot proliferation of Celtis occidentalis L. Abst. in Proceedings of the VI International Congress Plant Tissue & Cell Culture, Minneapolis, 149
- Meyer HJ, van Staden J (1988) In vitro multiplication of Ixia flexuosa. Hortscience 23(6):1070–1071
- Miller CO (1960) An assay for kinetin-like materials. Plant Physiol 35(Suppl. XXVI):26
- Miller CO (1961a) A kinetin-like compound in maize. Proc Nat Acad Sci USA 47:170–174
- Miller CO (1961b) Kinetin related compounds in plant growth. Annu Rev Plant Physiol 12:395-408
- Miller CO, Skoog F, Von Saltza M, Strong FM (1955a) Kinetin, a cell division factor from deoxyribonucleic acid. J Am Chem Soc 77:1392
- Miller CO, Skoog F, Okumura FS, Von Saltza MH, Strong FM (1955b) Structure and synthesis of kinetin. J Am Chem Soc 77:2662–2663

- Mitchell JW, Rice RR (1942) Plant growth regulators, Publisher Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. Agriculture Volume no.495
- Mok MC, Mok DWS, Armstrong DJ (1978) Differential cytokinin structure- activity relationships in *Phaseolus*. Plant Physiol 61:72
- Mok MC, Kim SG, Armstrong DJ, Mok DWS (1979) Induction of cytokinin autonomy by N,Ndiphenylurea in tissue cultures of *Phaseolus lunatus* L. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 76:3880–3884
- Mok MC, Mok DWS, Armstrong DJ, Rabakoarihanta A, Kim SG (1980) Cytokinin autonomy in tissue cultures of *Phaseolus*: a genotype-specific and heritable trait. Genetics 94:675
- Mok MC, Mok DWS, Armstrong DJ et al (1982) Cytokinin activity of Nphenyl-N'-l,2,3-thidiazol-5-ylurea (TDZ). Phytochemistry 21:1509–1511
- Mok MC, Mok DWS, Turner JE et al (1987) Biological and biochemical effects of cytokinin-active phenylurea derivatives in tissue culture systems. Hortscience 22:1194–1197
- Murthy BNS, Saxena PK (1998) Somatic embryogenesis and plant regeneration of Neem (*Azadirachta indica* A. Juss). Plant Cell Rep 17:469–475
- Murthy BNS, Murch SJ, Saxena PK (1995) TDZ-induced somatic embryogenesis in intact seedlings of peanut (*Arachis hypogaea*): endogenous growth regulator levels and significance of cotyledons. Physiol Plant 94:268–276
- Murthy BNS, Victor J, Singh R et al (1996) In vitro regeneration of chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.): stimulation of direct organogenesis and somatic embryogenesis by TDZ. J. Plant Growth Regul 19:233–240
- Murthy BNS, Murch SJ, Saxena PK (1998) Thidiazuron: a potent regulator of in vitro plant morphogenesis. In Vitro Cell Dev Biol Plant 34:267
- Nagata R, Kawachi E, Hashimoto Y et al (1993) Cytokinin-specific binding protein in etiolated mung bean seedlings. Biochem Biophys Res Commun 19:543–549
- van Nieuwkerk JP, Zimmerman RH, Fordham I (1986) Thidiazuron stimulation of apple shoot proliferation in vitro. Hort Science 21:516–518
- Pai SR, Nimbalkar MS, Pawar NV, Kedage VV, Dixit GB (2008) In vitro embryo culture and ex situ regeneration studies in *Ancistrocladus heyneanus* Wall. ex Grah. Plant Cell Biotechnol Mol Biol 9(3&4):1–6
- Pai SR, Upadhya V, Hedge HV, Joshi RK, Kholkute SD (2017) In vitro rapid multiplication and determination of triterpenoids in callus cultures of *Achyranthes aspera* Linn. Indian J Biotech (In Press)
- Pawar B, Kale P, Bahurupe J, Jadhav A, Kale A, Pawar S (2015) Proline and glutamine improve in vitro callus induction and subsequent shooting in rice. Rice Sci 22(6):283–289
- Preece JE, Imel MR (1991) Plant regeneration from leaf explants of *Rhododendron* 'P. J. M. hybrids'. Sci Hortic 48:159–170
- Proctor JTA, Slimmon T, Saxena PK (1996) Modulation of root growth and organogenesis in TDZtreated ginseng (*Panax quinquefolium* L.) J Plant Growth Regul 20:201–208
- Quresbi JA, Saxena PX (1992) Adventitious shoot induction and somaticembryogenesis with intact seedlings of several hybrid seed geranium (Pelragonium X hortorum bailey) varieties. Plant Cell Rep 11:443–448
- Reustle G, Harst M, Alleweldt G (1995) Plant regeneration of grape (Vitis sp.) protoplasts isolated from embryogenic tissue. Plant Cell Rep 15:238–241
- Rodaway S, Lutz AW (1985) Nitroguanidines: a new class of synthetic cytokinins. Plant Physiol 77(Suppl. 21) (Abst. 109)
- Rogozinska JH, Kroon C, Salemink CA (1973) Influence of alterations in the purine ring on biological activity of cytokinins. Phytochemistry 12:2087–2092
- Rohela GK, Damera S, Bylla P, Korra R, Pendili S, Thammidala C (2016) Somatic embryogenesis and indirect regeneration in *Mirabilis jalapa* Linn. Mater Today Proc 3((10) B):3882–3891
- Sanago MHM, Murch SJ, Slimmon TY et al (1995) Morphoregulatory role of TDZ: morphogenesis of root outgrowths in TDZ-treated geranium (*Pelargonium X hortorum* bailey). Plant Cell Rep 15:205–211
- Saxena PK, Malik KA, Gill R (1992) Induction by TDZ of somatic embryogenesis in intact seedlings of peanut. Man Ther 187:421–424

- Shantz EM, Steward FC (1955) The identification of compound A from coconut milk as 1,3-diphenylurea. J Am Chem Soc 77:6351–6353
- Singh ND, Sahoo L, Sarin NB, Jaiwal PK (2003) The effect of TDZ on organogenesis and somatic embryogenesis in pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan* L. Millsp). Plant Sci 164(3):341–347
- Skoog F, Strong FM, Miller CO (1965) Cytokinins. Science 148:532-533
- Song J, Sorensen EL, Liang GH (1990) Direct embryogenesis from single mesophyll protoplasts in alfalfa (*Medicugo sativa* L). Plant Cell Rep 9(2):1–25
- Strong FM (1956) Topics in microbial chemistry. Wiley, New York, p 98
- Suttle JC (1984) Effects of the defoliant TDZ on leaf abscission and ethylene evolution from cotton seedlings. In: Fuchs Y, Chalutz E (eds) Ethylene. Biochemical, physiological and applied aspects. Martinus Nijhoff/Dr. W. Junk Publishers, The Hague, pp 277–278
- Suttle JC (1985) Involvement of ethylene in the action of the cotton defoliant TDZ. Plant Physiol 78:272–276
- Suttle JC (1986) Disruption of the polar auxin transport system in cotton seedlings following treatment with the defoliant TDZ. Plant Physiol 86:241–245
- Takahashi S, Shudo K, Okamoto T, Yamada K, Isogai Y (1978) Cytokinin activities of N-phenyl-N'-(4-pyridyl)urea derivatives. Phytochemistry 17:1201–1207
- Tariq U, Ali M, Abbasi BA (2014) Morphogenic and biochemical variations under different spectral lights in callus cultures of Artemisia absinthium L. J Photochem Photobiol B Biol 130:264–271
- Te-chato S, Lim M (2000) Improvement of mangosteen micropropagation through meristematic nodular callus formation from in vitro-derived leaf explants. Sci Hortic 86(4):291–298
- Thomas JC, Katterman ER (1986) Cytokinin activity induced by TDZ. Plant Physiol 81:681-683
- Thomson KS, Hertel R, Muller S et al (1973) 1-N-naphthylphthalamic acid and 2,3,5-triiodobenzoic acid. In vitro biding to particulate cell fractions and action on auxin transport in corn coleoptiles. Planta 109:337–352
- Vahala T, Eriksson T (1991) Callus production from willow (*Salix viminalis* L.) protoplam. Plant Cell Tissue Organ Cult 27:243–248
- Verma SK, Sahin G, Yucesan B, Ekera I, Sahbaza N, Gurel S, Gurela E (2012) Direct somatic embryogenesis from hypocotyl segments of *Digitalis trojana* Ivan and subsequent plant regeneration. Ind Crops Prod 40:76–80
- Verma SK, Das AK, Cingoz GS, Uslu E, Gurela E (2016) Influence of nutrient media on callus induction, somatic embryogenesis and plant regeneration in selected Turkish crocus species. Biotechnol Rep (Amst) 10(66–74)
- Visser C, Qureshi JA, Gill R et al (1992) Morphoregulatory role of TDZ. Substitution of auxin and cytokinin requirement for the induction of somatic embryogenesis in *Geranium* hypocotyl cultures. Plant Physiol 99:1704–1707
- Visser C, Fletcher RA, Saxena PK (1995) TDZ stimulates expansion and greening in cucumber cotyledons. Physiol Mol Biol Plants 1:21–26
- Wallin A, Johansson L (1989) Plant regeneration nom leaf mesophyll protoplasts of in vitro cultured shoots of a columnar apple. J Plant Physiol 135:565–570
- Wilcox EJ, Selby C, Wain RL (1978) Studies on plant growth-regulating substances. L. The cytokinin activity of some substituted benzyloxypurines. Ann Appl Biol 88:439–444
- Wilcox EJ, Selby C, Wain RL (1981) The cytokinin activities of $6-\alpha$ -alkylbenzyloxy-purines. Ann Appl Biol 97:221–226
- Yip WK, Yang SF (1986) Effect of TDZ, a cytokinin-active urea derivative, in cytokinin-dependent ethylene production systems. Plant Physiol 80:515–519
- Zhang S, Liu N, Sheng A, Ma G, Wu G (2011) Direct and callus mediated regeneration of *Curcuma* soloensis Valeton (Zingiberaceae) and ex vitro performance of regenerated plants. Sci Hortic 130(4):899–905