



# Role of *Meta*-topolin on in Vitro Shoot Regeneration: An Insight

# 12

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## Abstract

*Meta*-topolin [6-(3-hydroxybenzylamino)purine] is an aromatic cytokinin bearing a benzyl ring substituted by a hydroxyl group at *meta*-position. It was first isolated from the leaves of poplar tree. *Meta*-topolin (*mT*) has immense potential for shoot regeneration. Its other beneficial attributes include delaying senescence, preventing shoot-tip necrosis, and evading the effects of hyperhydricity. The concise results obtained from different studies, conducted over the past one decade, distinctively show that the effects of *mT* basically include in vitro shoot induction, shoot proliferation, and increase in shoot length. When used in

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combination with auxins, it exhibits an ability to induce regenerative callus. Based on all the beneficial attributes of *mT*, it can be regarded as a potent aromatic cytokinin that can be utilized in micropropagation. Considering its significant application in plant tissue culture, the present chapter intricately describes the nature, usage, and advantages of *mT* on shoot regeneration, in particular.

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**Keywords**

Auxins · Callus · Cytokinin · Hyperhydricity · *Meta*-topolin · Micropropagation · Senescence

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## 12.1 Introduction

Cytokinins are a major class of plant growth hormones that induce cell division in tissues (Koshimizu and Iwamura 1986). Its major properties include impeding the senescence process mainly by preventing protein degradation that further increases the activity of RNase (Hall 1973). The primary function of cytokinins is suppressing the apical dominance and thus culminating a way for the development of buds at lateral positions (Leopold and Kriedemann 1975). Considering the extensive uses of cytokinins, there has been an increase in demand on the usage of synthetic cytokinins having analogous effects to naturally derived cytokinins. A novel class of cytokinins, i.e., topolins, is recently being used in plant tissue culture. Chemically, they are regarded as aromatic cytokinins (ARCKs), and structural studies showed that topolins consist of a hydroxylated benzyl that is attached at  $N^6$ -position of adenine (Aremu et al. 2012a). *mT* was first isolated from the leaves of *Populus* × *canadensis*. The nomenclature of the hormone has been derived from the Czech word ‘topol’ that signifies the plant poplar from where it was first isolated (Strnad et al. 1997). Furthermore, the cytokinin activity depends on the N1 position which should remain free since in the case of hydroxyl at the *ortho*-position, hydrogen bonding occurs between this group and the N1 atom, which in turn makes the *meta*-substituents highly potent (Holub et al. 1998). Henceforth, the name *meta*-topolin [6-(3-hydroxybenzylamino)purine] is clearly justified. Generally, *mT* serves as substrate for *O*-glucosyltransferase (ZOG1 enzyme found in *Zea mays* and *Phaseolus lunatus*). Additionally, from the reports on correlation between the activity of *mT* and their ability to serve as substrate for ZOG1 enzyme, it can be concluded that there is a similarity between the receptors and the binding sites of *mT* (Mok et al. 2005). The physical attributes of *mT* are, namely, ‘solid form’ and ‘off white’ to ‘white’ colour. During preparation of stock solution, *mT* is readily soluble in water, but other solvents like KOH and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) are also equivalently effective. *mT* also has many multifaceted properties like evading the ill effects of shoot-tip necrosis and hyperhydricity and causing delay in senescence that eventually facilitates multiple shoot regeneration and proliferation (Malá et al. 2013).

## 12.2 Principles of Regeneration via In Vitro Shoots

The development and regeneration of new organs from different explants are based on the phenomena known as ‘totipotency’, which means that a single cell can develop into a functional organ. The entire process of shoot organogenesis spans entirely over three broad aspects, which are competence, determination, and morphogenesis (Sugiyama 1999). Competence is regarded as the initial step of shoot organogenesis where cell signalling induced by hormones leads to dedifferentiation of cells (Howell et al. 2003). The next step is determining the identity of the organ fixed by the proportion of plant growth hormone; in case of shoot organogenesis, it is possible through cytokinins (Gahan and George 2008). Morphogenesis is the ultimate step where shoot induction finally occurs (Sugiyama 1999).

Furthermore, the phenomena of shoot induction can be categorized into two pathways, namely, direct and indirect pathway. The direct pathway involves the formation of shoot bud, and there is no formation of callus (Yancheva et al. 2003), whereas indirect pathway involves an intermittent step where formation of callus occurs and from adventitious shoots induces from the respective callus (Gahan and George 2008).

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## 12.3 In Vitro Shoot Regeneration in Plant System

The regeneration of shoots from desired explants, mediated via direct or indirect organogenesis approach, serves as a steadfast methodology for micropropagation (Gahan and George 2008). The regeneration of shoots in multiple numbers depends on the type of explant utilized and also on an array of factors like the nutrients utilized in basal media, the environmental factors, and the type and dosage of plant growth hormone used (Gantait et al. 2014).

### 12.3.1 Influence of Explant

The fundamental criteria before establishment of in vitro culture is the proper selection of explant that should be free from contamination and can be imparted by physical factors like dust or dirt and biological factors like bacteria, fungi, and other microorganisms (Gantait and Kundu 2017). There are innumerable types of explants utilized in micropropagation for inducing shoot directly. Shoot tips and axillary buds are predominantly used explants in any micropropagation experiment since it is easily available and it maintains the genetic integrity in the in vitro-derived plantlets from the mother plant (Rout et al. 2006). Histological studies showed that the shoot-tip region contains a zone comprising of meristematic cells that exhibit the phenomena called ‘totipotency’ and possess the ability of accumulating plant growth hormones at an anticipated level (Akin-Idowu et al. 2009). Another desirable explant utilized is nodal segment, which has the capability to generate multiple axillary buds, since bud break can be easily induced in a short period of time with the application of

desired level of plant hormones (Gantait et al. 2009). Some other explants apart from shoot tip and nodal segment such as leaf, corm, bulb, epicotyl, hypocotyledon, cotyledon, root, zygotic embryos, and tillers exhibited promising results and displayed a positive correlation with shoot regeneration (Meyer et al. 2009; Nas et al. 2010; Niedz and Evens 2010; Valero-Aracama et al. 2010; De Diego et al. 2011, Moyo et al. 2011; Niedz and Evens 2011a; Baskaran et al. 2012; Aremu et al. 2014; Moyo et al. 2014; Masondo et al. 2014; Ncube et al. 2015; Aremu et al. 2016; Chiancone et al. 2017; Baskaran et al. 2018a, b; Behera et al. 2018; Chauhan and Taylor 2018; Ahmad and Anis 2019).

### 12.3.2 Influence of Basal Media

In any micropropagation setup, the basal media enriched with macro- and micronutrients is essential for proper regeneration of explant. The popularly used basal media is Murashige and Skoog (MS) (Murashige and Skoog 1962) medium for shoot regeneration (Table 12.1). There are also other types of media apart from MS media, where the results achieved were quite promising, such as Le Poivre (LP) basal medium (Cortizo et al. 2009); Woody Plant (WP) medium (De Diego et al. 2010; Lattier et al. 2014; Mirabbasi and Hosseinpour 2014; Wen et al. 2016; Rakrawee et al. 2018; Tongsad et al. 2018; Nowakowska et al. 2019), comprising low concentration of nitrate and ammonium ions (Bosela and Michler 2008); Nas and Read medium (NMR) (Nas et al. 2010); Murashige and Tucker (MT) medium (Niedz and Evens 2011b); Quoirin and Lepoivre (QL) (Quoirin and Lepoivre 1977) medium where calcium nitrate is the sole nitrogen source (Lattier et al. 2013); and Driver and Kuniyuki (DKW) medium (Driver and Kuniyuki 1984) that possess minimum proportions of ammonium ions with calcium nitrate serving as nitrogen sources (Gentile et al. 2017; Nacheva et al. 2015; Stevens and Pijut 2018).

### 12.3.3 Influence of Carbon Source and Concentration

The explants that require regeneration under in vitro conditions possess partial autotrophic condition; hence, carbon source is mandatory (Van Huylenbroeck and Debergh 1996). Carbon source, mainly sugars, is required for fine-tuning the osmotic regulation (Hazarika 2003). Majority of research reports indicated the use of optimum amount of carbon source (2–3% sucrose), which is prevalently used (Table 12.1). However, as low as 0.57% sucrose was used to assess its effect on multiple shoot induction from shoot tip of *Asparagus officinalis* that eventually resulted in elongated multiple shoots (Hudák et al. 2013). It is noteworthy to mention that there is a single instance wherein glucose was used as a carbon source instead of sucrose (Nacheva et al. 2015).

**Table 12.1** Influence of *meta*-topolin (*mT*) on induction, proliferation, and elongation of in vitro multiple shoots

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu$ M)	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Harpagophytum procumbens</i>	NS	MS	3% (w/v) sucrose	25 $\pm$ 1 °C; 45 $\mu$ mol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	5	None	0.9% (w/v) Agar	Bairu et al. (2009a)
<i>Aloe ferox</i> Mill	ST	MS	3% sucrose	24 $\pm$ 1 °C; 45 $\mu$ mol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	5	0.01% (w/v) MI	1% Agar	Bairu et al. (2009b)
<i>Pinus pinea</i> L.	NS	LP	3% sucrose	22 °C; 120 $\mu$ mol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	50	None	0.4% (w/v) Gelrite; 0.02% (w/v) Difco-Bacto agar	Cortizo et al. (2009)
<i>Hypericum</i>	L	MS	3% sucrose	23 $\pm$ 1 °C; dark; NA; NM	15	1.25 $\mu$ M IAA	0.8% Agar	Meyer et al. (2009)
<i>Saccharum officinarum</i>	Apical dome	MS	NM	22 $\pm$ 1 °C; 100 $\mu$ mol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	None	0.8% Agar	Vinayak et al. (2009)
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> L.	AB	DCR, LP, WPM	3% sucrose	22 °C; 120 $\mu$ mol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	50	None	1% Difco-Bacto agar	De Diego et al. (2010)
<i>Lycaste aromatica</i>	Pseudo bulb	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 1 °C; 50 $\mu$ mol/	8.87	2 mg/L Glycine; 0.01% MI	0.3% (w/v) Gellan gum	Mata-Rosas et al. (2010)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu\text{M}$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Prunus microcarpa</i>	Cotyledon, hypocotyl, root	NRM	3% sucrose	$\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM $23 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ; 80 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	12.5	None	0.55% Microbiological agar	Nas et al. (2010)
<i>Citrus reticulata</i> × <i>Poncirus trifoliata</i>	Epicotyl	NM	NM	$27^\circ\text{C}$ ; 30–35 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM		None	0.8% Agar	Niedz and Evens (2010)
<i>Uniola paniculata</i>	Tiller	MS	87.6 $\mu\text{M}$ sucrose	$24 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; 58%	10	0.56 $\mu\text{M}$ ML, 1.2 $\mu\text{M}$ thiamine	0.8% Agar	Valero-Aracama et al. (2010)
<i>Pelargonium</i> sp.	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$24 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	1	None	0.55% Microbiological agar	Wojtania (2010)
<i>Teledia speciosa</i> (Schreb.) Baumg.	In vitro seedling	MS	3% sucrose	$22 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 105 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	5	$\text{KNO}_3$ (500 mg/L); casein (500 mg/L);	0.7% Agar	Csabai et al. (2011)
<i>Pinus pinaster</i> Ait.	Zygotic embryos	MS	3% sucrose	$22^\circ\text{C}$ ; 100 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	2.2	0.2% AC	1% Difco-Bacto agar	De Diego et al. (2011)

<i>Sclerocarya birrea</i>	ST, hypocotyl, epicotyl	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; 58%	8	0.01% MI, 3 g/L polyvinylpyrrolidone	NM	Moyo et al. (2011)
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Epicotyl	MT	NM	27 °C; 30 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	0.25	0.75 µM BA	0.8% Agar	Niedz and Evens (2011b)
<i>Aloe arborescens</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	15	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Amoo et al. (2012)
<i>Musa</i> spp. AAA cv. 'Williams'	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 45 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	30	None	0.3% Gelrite	Aremu et al. (2012b)
<i>Musa</i> spp. AAA cv. 'Williams'	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 45 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	30	None	0.3% Gelrite; INCYDE	Aremu et al. (2012c)
<i>Merrilla plumbea</i> (Lindl.) Speta	L	MS	NM	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	0.42	Trimethoprim (TMP), yeast extract (YE), and yeast malt broth	NM	Baskaran et al. (2012)
<i>Pistacia vera</i> L.	NS	MS	3% sucrose	22 ± 1 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2	0.01% Inositol, 500 mg/L casein hydrolysate	NM	Benmahioul et al. (2012)
<i>Pelargonium sidoides</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2	0.01% (w/v) MI, 180 mg/L ascorbic acid	0.8% Agar	Moyo et al. (2012)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu\text{M}$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Magnolia 'Ann'</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 70 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	8	0.01% inositol, MES monohydrate	0.8% Agar	Parris et al. (2012)
<i>Romulea sabulosa</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	NM	5	None	0.8% Agar	Swart et al. (2012)
<i>Pelargonium hortorum</i> cv. 'Grand Prix'	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$20^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	1	0.01% MI	0.55% Agar	Wojtania and Węgrzynowicz-Lesiak (2012)
<i>Huernia hystrix</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	20	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Amoo and van Staden (2013)
<i>Barleria argillicola</i>	ST, NS	MS	3% sucrose	$25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	7	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Amoo and van Staden (2013)
<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	4.1	22.2 $\mu\text{M}$ BA	0.8% Agar	Baskaran and van Staden (2013)
<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	ST	MS	0.57% sucrose	$22 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ; 105 $\mu\text{mol}/$	2	25 mg/L Fe-EDTA, 0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Hudák et al. (2013)



<i>Acer platanoides</i>	ST	MS, WPM, QL	3% sucrose	m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM 22 ± 2 °C; 75 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2*	0.01% MI, MES (100 mg/L),	0.75% Agar	Lattier et al. (2013)
<i>Aloe arborescens</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 30 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Amoo et al. (2014)
<i>Merrillia plumbea</i>	L	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	1	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Aremu et al. (2014)
<i>Coleonema pulchellum</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2.1	13.6 µM BA	0.8% Agar	Baskaran et al. (2014)
<i>Scutellaria barbata</i>	ST, NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	5	34.2 g D-maltose; 18 g fructose; 10 g D-mannose; 10 g MI, 18 g D-mannitol; 0.1 µM NAA	0.7% Agar	Brearley et al. (2014)
<i>Paulownia elongate</i>	AB	MS	3% sucrose	NM	1	None	0.3% Agar	Clapa et al. (2014)
<i>Coleonema album</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 30 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	5	0.01% MI, 2 µM IBA	0.8% Agar	Fajimi et al. (2014)
<i>Lonicera kamtschatica</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	23 ± 3 °C; 35 µmol/	1	None	5% (w/v) wheat starch	Al et al. (2014)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/PRH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu\text{M}$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Prunus</i> rootstock (Torinel)	AB	MS	3% sucrose	$\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM $24 \pm 2$ °C; $37.5$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h;	2.1	None	0.55% Agar	Gentile et al. (2014)
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	In vitro seedling	$1/2$ MS	3% sucrose	$22$ °C; $36$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	2.07	10 mg/L Meso-inositol	0.62% Agar	Kőszeghi et al. (2014)
<i>Cornus</i> 'NCCHI'	ST	WPM	3% sucrose	NM	2.5	0.01% MI, MES (100 mg/L),	0.75% Agar	Lattier et al. (2014)
<i>Eucomis autumnalis</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$25 \pm 2$ °C; $45$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	2	0.01% MI, 10 $\mu\text{M}$ NAA	0.3% Gelrite	Masondo et al. (2014)
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	AB	WPM	3% sucrose	$24 \pm 2$ °C; 2000 lux; 16 h; NM	0.2*	100 mg/L Sequestrene, 10 mg/L glutamine	0.57% Agar	Mirabbasi and Hosseinpour (2014)
<i>Hypoxis hemerocallidea</i>	Corm	MS	3% sucrose	$25 \pm 2$ °C; $45$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	10	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Moyo et al. (2014)
<i>Dioscorea trifida</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	$27 \pm 1$ °C; 50 $\mu\text{mol}/$	25	0.2% AC, 0.23 $\mu\text{M}$ GA	0.7% Agar	Engelmann-Sylvestre and

<i>Pelargonium hortorum</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	m <sup>2</sup> /s; 12 h; NM 21 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 12 h; NM	2.07	0.01% MI, 3.78 µM ABA	0.6% Agar	Engelmann (2014) Wojtania and Skrzypek (2014)
<i>Malus domestica</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	23 ± 2 °C; 5500 lux; 16 h; NM	1	None	0.25% (w/v) Phytigel	Al et al. (2015)
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	ST	MS	2% sucrose	23 ± 1 °C; 35 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 12 h; NM	5	None	0.8% Agar	Ilczuk and Katarzyna (2015)
<i>Cyrtanthus guthrieae</i>	Bulbs	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 60 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 12 h; NM	5	0.01% MI	0.8% (w/v) Bacto-agar	Ncube et al. (2015)
<i>Pelargonium × hortorum</i> 'Bergpalais	ST	MS	3% sucrose	23 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2.07	0.01% MI	0.6% Bacto-agar	Wojtania et al. (2015)
<i>Eucomis autumnalis</i>	L	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 45 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	5	5 µM NAA	0.8% Agar	Aremu et al. (2016)
<i>Pistacia vera</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	22 ± 1 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2*	0.01% MI, 500 mg/L casein hydrolysate	0.7% Agar	Benmahiou et al. (2016)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	$mT$ (mg/L* or $\mu M$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Dendrobium nobile</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 35–50 $\mu mol/m^2/s$ ; 12 h; NM	1*	0.8 mg/L putrescine	0.8% Agar	Bhattacharyya et al. (2016)
Mixed diploid Banana ( <i>Musa AB</i> )	ST	MS	3% sucrose	28 $\pm$ 2 °C; NM; 14 h; NM	8.89	None	0.8% Agar	Bohra et al. (2016)
<i>Nardostachys jatamansi</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	22 $\pm$ 1 °C; 50 $\mu mol/m^2/s$ ; 14 h; NM	1*	None	0.8% Agar	Bose et al. (2016)
<i>Pyrus communis</i> Rootstock OHF-333	ST	MS	3% sucrose	22 $\pm$ 2 °C; 40 $\mu mol/m^2/s$ ; 14 h; NM	9*	None	0.65% (w/v) Phyto-agar	Dimitrova et al. (2016)
<i>Withania coagulans</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 35 $\mu mol/m^2/s$ ; 14 h; NM	2.5*	0.1 mg/L NAA + 50 mg/L AdS	0.8% Agar	Joshi et al. (2016)
<i>Clerodendrum phlomidis</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 35 $\mu mol/m^2/s$ ; 16 h; NM	8.28*	271 $\mu M$ AdS	0.8% Agar	Kher et al. (2016)
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 52 $\mu mol/$	2	None	0.8% Agar	Lata et al. (2016)

<i>Allium achoenoprasum</i>	ST	MS	2% sucrose	m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	0.01% MI, 2 mg/L adenine	0.7% Agar	Tubić et al. (2016)
Silk Banana var. Nanjanagud Rasabale ( <i>Musa AAB</i> )	Sucker	MS	3% sucrose	28 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 14 h; NM	35.48	None	0.6% Agar	Waman et al. (2016)
<i>Paonia</i> × <i>lemoinei</i> 'High Noon'	AB	WPM	3% sucrose	25 ± 1 °C; 25 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 14 h; NM	5	1.5 µM GA <sub>3</sub>	0.7% Agar	Wen et al. (2016)
<i>Pistacia vera</i>	AB	MS	3% sucrose	NM; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; NM; NM	2	0.01% MI, 500 mg/L casein hydrolysate	0.7% Agar	Benmahioul (2017)
<i>Ansellia africana</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 12 h; 80%	10	None	0.8% Agar	Bhattacharyya et al. (2017)
<i>Citrus sinensis</i> [L.] Osbeck × <i>Poncirus trifoliata</i> [L.] Raf.	Epicotyl segment	MS	3% sucrose	27 ± 1 °C; 35 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	1*	500 mg/L ascorbic acid, 500 mg/L malt extract	0.85% Agar	Chiancone et al. (2017)
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	ST	DKW	3% sucrose	24 ± 1 °C; 37.5 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	8.2	None	0.7% Agar	Gentile et al. (2017)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/PRH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu\text{M}$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	24 $\pm$ 1 °C; NM; 18 h; NM	0.5*	0.1% AC	0.7% Agar	Grulichova et al. (2017)
<i>Eriocephalus africanus</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 40–50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	5	0.01% MI	0.8% Agar	Madzikane-Mlungwana et al. (2017)
<i>Prunus domestica</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	24 $\pm$ 2 °C; 37.5 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	2.1	None	0.55% Agar	Monticelli et al. (2017)
<i>Merrilla plumbea</i>	ST	DKW	3% glucose	22 $\pm$ 2 °C; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	5.5	None	0.65% Agar	Nacheva et al. (2015)
<i>Scadoxus puniceus</i>	L	MS	NM	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 30 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	5.5	None	–	Naidoo et al. (2017)
<i>Dendrocalamus asper</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	24 $\pm$ 2 °C; 40–50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	20	None	0.25% Phytigel	Ornellas et al. (2017)

<i>Cotula bipinnata</i> , <i>Chironia limoides</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	24 ± 1 °C; 30 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	0.3*	None	0.7% Agar	Sacco et al. (2017)
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	24 ± 2 °C; 50 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	None	0.8% Agar	Shahzad et al. (2017)
<i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> (NARL-H-15)	ST, NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 15 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	3	0.5 µM CPPU	0.8% Agar	Vijayakumar et al. (2017)
<i>Ficus carica</i>	AB	MS	3% sucrose	NM; 35 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM		None	0.65% Agar	Yahyaoui et al. (2017)
<i>Santalum album</i>			NM			None		Akhtiar and Shahzad (2019)
<i>Epilobium canum garretti</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 1 °C; 38 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	8.8	2 mg/L thiamine	0.7% Agar	Alosaimi et al. (2018)
<i>Urgeia altissima</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 50 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	2 µM IAA	0.8% Agar	Baskaran et al. (2018a)
<i>Eucomis autumnalis</i>	L	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	10	None	0.8% Agar	Baskaran et al. (2018b)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	<i>mT</i> (mg/L* or $\mu\text{M}$ )	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Hedychium coronarium</i>	Rhizome	MS	NM	25 $\pm$ 1 °C; 50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	3	None	–	Behera et al. (2018)
<i>Dendrobium aphyllum</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	15	10 $\mu\text{M}$ AgNO <sub>3</sub> , 10 $\mu\text{M}$ TDZ		Bhattacharyya et al. (2018a)
<i>Ansellia africana</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 2 °C; 40 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 12 h; NM	7.5	None	0.8% Agar	Bhattacharyya et al. (2018b)
Cassava	L	MS	2% sucrose	NM	7.5	None	0.8% Agar	Chauhan and Taylor (2018)
<i>Kadsura heteroclita</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	25 °C; NM; 16 h; NM	0.5*	None	0.26% Gellan gum	Jedoroh et al. (2018)
<i>Mammillaria dioxanthocentron</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 1 °C; 55 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	2.2	0.1% AC	0.8% Agar	Lázaro-Castellanos et al. (2018)
<i>Mammillaria hermandezii</i> , <i>M. lanata</i>	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 $\pm$ 1 °C; 55 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ; 16 h; NM	4.4	None	0.8% Agar	Lázaro-Castellanos et al. (2018)
<i>Rose</i> cv. <i>Frisco</i>	NS	MS	4% sucrose	24 $\pm$ 1 °C; 60 $\mu\text{mol}/$	2.1*	None	0.7% agar	Mahmood et al. (2018)



<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	In vitro shoots	MS	3% sucrose	m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	20	0.01% MI	NM	Moyo et al. (2018)
<i>Stylosanthes hamata</i> cv. <i>Verano</i>	In vitro seedling	MS	3% sucrose	24 ± 1 °C; 40 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	3*	None	0.26% Phytigel	Ngoenngam et al. (2018)
<i>Malus</i> × <i>domestica</i> Borkh	ST	MS	3% sucrose	25 ± 1 °C; 27 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	8	None	0.6% Agar	Podwyszynska and Cieslinska (2018)
<i>Gluta usitata</i> (217 Mae Ka)	ST	WPM	3% sucrose	21 °C; 30 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	2*	None	0.2% Phytigel	Rakrawee et al. (2018)
<i>Gluta usitata</i> (Napong3)	NS	WPM	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; NM; 16 h; NM	0.5*	0.2% AC	0.26% Gellan gum	Rakrawee et al. (2018)
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	NS	DKW	3% sucrose	24 ± 2 °C; 80 µmol/ m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM		None	0.22% Phytigel	Stevens and Pijut (2018)
<i>Tectona grandis</i>	ST	WPM	3% sucrose	25 ± 2 °C; NM; 16 h; NM	0.25*	None	0.26% Gellan gum	Tongsad et al. (2018)
<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>	Cotyledonary node	MS	3% sucrose	24 ± 2 °C; 50 µmol/	7.5	14 µM NAA	0.8% Agar	Ahmad and Anis (2019)

(continued)

Table 12.1 (continued)

Plant species	Explant	Basal media	Carbon source	Physical factors (temp/LI/PP/RH)	mT (mg/L* or µM)	Supplement	Gelling agent	References
<i>Stylosanthes hamata</i> cv. Verano	In vitro seedling	MS	3% sucrose	m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM 25 ± 1 °C; 27 µmol/m <sup>2</sup> /s; 16 h; NM	3*	None	0.26% Phytigel	Ngoenngam et al. (2019)
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	NS	MS	3% sucrose	NM	1*	0.01% MI	Bacto-agar	Nowakowska et al. (2019)
<i>Daphne mezereum</i>	NS	WPM	3% sucrose	NM	2*	None	Bacto-agar	Nowakowska et al. (2019)

2,4-D 2,4-Dichlorophenoxy acetic acid, AB axillary buds, AC activated charcoal, BA N<sup>6</sup>-benzyladenine, DKW Driver and Kuniyuki walnut medium (Driver and Kuniyuki 1984), IAA indole-3-acetic acid, IBA indole-3-butyric acid, INCYDE 2-Chloro-6-(3-methoxyphenyl)aminopurine, L leaf, LI light intensity, LP Le Poivre basal medium, MI myo-inositol, MS Murashige Skoog medium (Murashige and Skoog 1962), MT Murashige and Tucker medium (Murashige and Tucker 1969), NA not applicable, NAA α-naphthalene acetic acid, NM not mentioned, NRM Nas and Read medium (Nas and Read 2004), NS nodal segments, PP photoperiod, QL Quoirin and Lepoivre, RH relative humidity, ST shoot tip, TDZ thidiazuron, Temp temperature, WPM Woody plant medium

\* indicates that the plant growth regulator doses are in mg/L

### 12.3.4 Influence of Physical Environment

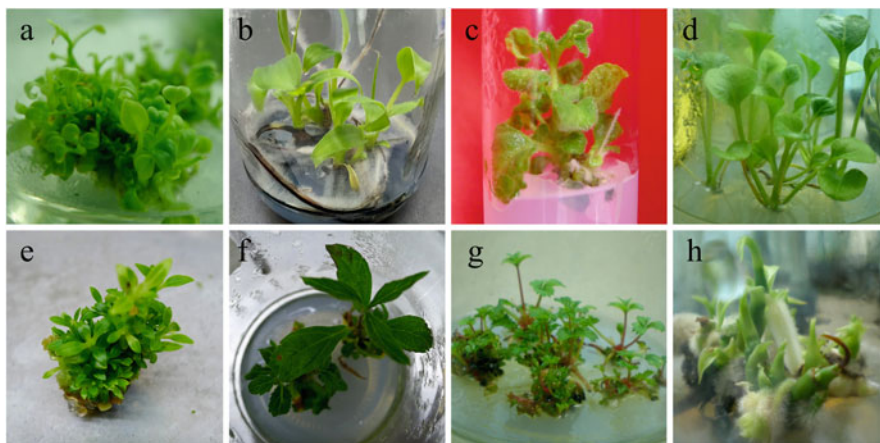
Light and temperature are the indispensable parameters for successful establishment of any in vitro culture. Light is dependent upon two factors, namely, intensity and duration. The source of light utilized in any in vitro culture room is fluorescent lamp that can be 'cool' or 'warm' (Gantait and Kundu 2017). Based on the research reports of past one decade, it was observed that the optimum light intensity ranging between 40 and 300  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{s}$  was maintained for successful in vitro regeneration (Table 12.1). Additionally, temperature also plays an obligatory role for normal growth of in vitro culture, and it is mainly dependent on the basic design and structural organization of laboratory. The temperature regime adopted during establishment of in vitro multiple shoot culture protocols is summarized specifically in Table 12.1. Relative humidity (RH) also serves as a regulatory factor in any commercial tissue culture laboratory. Lower levels of RH result in instilling a positive growth in explants, since it strikes a perfect balance with the transpiration rate, whereas higher levels of humidity cause degenerative disorders in explants (Ghashghaie et al. 1992). Generally, the optimum level of RH recurrent in all the relevant literatures scrutinized is around 60%.

### 12.3.5 Influence of *Meta*-topolin

There are ~100 reports on the usage of *meta*-topolin as a plant growth hormone for shoot regeneration that have been documented and illustrated precisely in this chapter. For shoot induction and multiplication, proper dosage of cytokinins is essential (Gahan and George 2008). *mT* proved to be an effective cytokinin for multiple shoot culture in a number of medicinal, ornamental, and aromatic plants (Fig. 12.1). In majority of the cases, *mT* alone was sufficient to induce multiple shoots and also aid in shoot proliferation in many species summarized in Table 12.1. A range of 5–10  $\mu\text{M}$  *mT* was employed to induce multiple shoot proliferation in various plant species through direct and indirect regeneration systems (Bairu et al. 2009a; Vinayak et al. 2009; Nas et al. 2010; Swart et al. 2012; Clapa et al. 2014; Al et al. 2014; Mukherjee et al. 2020). It was observed that even at a concentration lower than 5  $\mu\text{M}$ , *mT* resulted in successful shoot induction (Wojtania and Węgrzynowicz-Lesiak 2012; Hudák et al. 2013; Aremu et al. 2014; Al et al. 2015; Lata et al. 2016).

### 12.3.6 Influence of *mT* in Combination with Other PGRs or Additives

*mT* was also coupled with various classes of plant hormones and also growth additives that gave fruitful results (Table 12.1). *mT* when used in combination with auxins provided positive results towards shoot induction; however, the formation of regenerative callus was observed when it was exogenously used with auxins like indole-3-acetic acid (IAA) (Meyer et al. 2009). Alternatively, multiple shoot was observed in *Coleonema album* when combined with indole-3-butyric acid



**Fig. 12.1** Influence of *meta*-topolin (10  $\mu$ M in semi-solid MS medium with 3% sucrose incubated at  $25 \pm 1$  °C temperature, 50  $\mu$ mol/m<sup>2</sup>/s PPFD light intensity, 16 h photoperiod with 60% RH) on in vitro multiple shoot proliferation of several plant species. Multiple shoot cultures of (a) *Anthurium andreanum*, (b) *Musa* sp. cv. Grande Nine, (c) *Coleus forskohlii* Briq., (d) *Gerbera jamesonii* Bolus, (e) *Rauwolfia serpentina* (L.) Benth. ex Kurz., (f) *Sphagneticola* sp., (g) *Fragaria*  $\times$  *ananassa* Dutch, (h) *Vanilla planifolia* Andrews (figures are not in scale). (Source: Unpublished photographs of Saikat Gantait)

(IBA), where myo-inositol (MI) was used as an additive (Fajinmi et al. 2014). Surprisingly, in combination with *N*<sup>6</sup>-benzyladenine (BA), shoot induction occurred along with the formation of callus in the basal end, when shoot tips of *Coleonema pulchellum* were cultured (Baskaran et al. 2014). In combination with other cytokinins, a high synergistic effect was observed with *mT*. A high frequency of multiple shoot formation was observed when *mT* was used in combination with BA (Baskaran and van Staden 2013). Even the use of abscisic acid (ABA) along with *mT* gave positive results in multiple shoot regeneration in *Pelargonium hortorum* (Wojtania and Skrzypek 2014). Combination of *mT* with gibberellic acid (GA<sub>3</sub>) resulted in shoot multiplication with increased shoot length (Engelmann-Sylvestre and Engelmann 2014; Wen et al. 2016). Similarly, with the application of additives like MI and casein hydrolysate along with *mT* resulted in longer shoot length in *Pistacia vera* (Benmahioul 2017). Additives like trimethoprim, yeast extract, and yeast malt broth when used in the medium together with *mT* also resulted in an increase in nodal length of multiple shoots in *Merwillia plumbea* (Baskaran et al. 2012). Synthetic cytokinins like thidiazuron (TDZ) when used in combination with *mT* and an additive AgNO<sub>3</sub> exhibited better results during in vitro culture of nodal segments of *Dendrobium aphyllum* (Bhattacharyya et al. 2018a). Activated charcoal serves as a potent additive for in vitro culture since it has the capability of absorbing hazardous phenolic compounds that are generated during in vitro regeneration (Gantait et al. 2009). Activated charcoal gave promising results with high frequency of shoot multiplication when used in combination with *mT* (De Diego et al. 2011; Engelmann-Sylvestre and Engelmann 2014; Grulichova et al. 2017).

## 12.4 Conclusion and Future Prospect of *mT* Use

In this chapter, the extensive use of *mT* in various plant species along with their appropriate doses has been scrutinized and elaborately described. The usage of *mT* in various in vitro cultures has shown promising results when used alone or in combination with other plant growth hormones or additives. The other facets of *mT* apart from effective shoot induction and multiplication include increase in shoot length, fresh weight, and increase in photosynthetic capacity of in vitro-derived plantlets (Ahmad and Anis 2019). It also has an additional capability of inducing regenerative callus when coupled with some auxins, thus highlighting the efficiency of *mT*. Considering these positive attributes, we can consider *mT* as an upcoming plant growth regulator that can be utilized commercially. The need for a comprehensive and reproducible protocol on in vitro culture of plantlets using *mT* is an utmost necessity for commercialization of plant tissue culture system globally. However, the utility of this compound needs to be harnessed in plants having medicinal and aesthetic value.

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**In Compliance with Ethical Standards** *Conflict of Interest:* none

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