Development of protocorm-like bodies and shoots in *Dendrobium* cv. Sonia following gamma irradiation

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Abstract

This paper reports a preliminary attempt to evolve mutant varieties of *Dendrobium* with desirable traits. *Dendrobium cv*. Sonia was subcultured on half-strength MS medium supplemented with BA 1.0 mg L-1 and NAA 1.0 mg L-1 to induce production of protocorm-like bodies (PLBs). The PLBs were exposed to different doses of gamma rays (20 Gy and 30 Gy) and re-irradiated from a cobalt 60 source. The highest number of shoots was observed at 20 Gy (3.4). A comparison of three levels of BA with ½ MS media on the irradiated protocorms showed more PLB production at 0.5 mg L-1 while shoot production was higher at 1.5 mg L-1.

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