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In Vitro Propagation of Some New Banana Types (Musa spp.)

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<u>Abstract:</u> Three newly selected superior banana types were used to study the effects of different cytokinin and auxins on shoot multiplication and rooting. Benzylaminopurine [(BAP) (5, 10, 20 and 30 μM)] and thidiazuron [(TDZ) (0.4, 1, 2 and 3 μM)] were tested alone and with 1 μM indoleacetic acid (IAA) for the propagation stage. We compared basal Murashige and Skoog (MS) medium, active charcoal (5 g l⁻¹), indole-3-butyric acid (IBA) and naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) for rooting. Shoot proliferation and elongation were significantly greater with TDZ than with BAP all 3 types. Furthermore, each cytokinin with IAA increased shoot proliferation and elongation, and BAP over 20 μM or TDZ below 1 μM did not increase shoot proliferation, and BAP over 20 μM and TDZ over 2 μM suppressed shoot elongation. Charcoal alone was better for rooting than auxin treatments or MS medium alone. In conclusion, supplementation of 2 μM TDZ, and 1 μM IAA or 20 μM BAP and 1 μM IAA on MS medium, followed 5 g l⁻¹ charcoal at the rooting stage were the best combinations for the in vitro propagation of banana types.

Key Words: Banana, Musa spp., tissue culture, thidiazuron, active charcoal

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