https://doi.org/10.48047/AFJBS.6.10.2024.5962-5976

African Journal of Biological Sciences

Journal homepage: http://www.afjbs.com

Research Paper Open Access

Optimized Protocol for High-Frequency Shoot Regeneration from Leaf Explant Callus Cultures of *Psoralea corylifolia* L.

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Article History

Volume 6,Issue 10, 2024

Received:26-05-2024

Accepted : 02-06-2024

doi: 10.48047/AFJBS.6.10.2024.5962-5976

Abstract

The present study focused on optimizing callus induction and multiple shoot cultures of *Psoralea corylifolia* Linn. by testing various combinations and concentrations of plant growth regulators (PGRs). The highest callus induction was achieved using leaf explants, followed by stem and root explants. Optimal callus induction was observed with 2.0 mg/L of 2,4-D + NAA and 3.0 mg/L of IAA in Murashige and Skoog's medium, which resulted in distinct embryogenic callus formation. Multiple shoot cultures were successfully induced on MS medium supplemented with 2.0 mg/L 2,4-D + BAP, producing an average of (15.9 ± 0.4) shoots per explant. The study also investigated the effects of salicylic acid (SA) elicitation on biomass and psoralen content. SA showed dose-dependent effects, with the 10 µM concentration leading to a 2.11-fold increase in fresh weight and the highest psoralen content of 5.6% dry weight observed at 20 µM. Additionally, 4.3% dry weight of psoralen was observed at 10 µM within the first week compared to controls. This research highlights the importance of optimizing PGR concentrations for efficient multiple-shoot induction via callus and the use of SA elicitation to enhance secondary metabolite production in *P. corylifolia*. These findings have significant implications for the rapid multiplication of plant material for conservation and commercial purposes. Future efforts should focus on scaling up these findings for practical application in conservation and biotechnology.

Keywords:*Psoralea corylifolia* Linn.; *In vitro* propagation; MS medium; Leaf explants; Callus; Plant growth regulators (PGR); Multiple shoot culture; Elicitation; HPLC.

Introduction

Medicinal plants have been an integral part of human civilization for centuries, providing a vast array of natural compounds with therapeutic properties. Their significance lies not only in traditional medicine but also in modern pharmaceuticals, where plant-derived compounds serve as essential drugs for treating various ailments. Among the diverse techniques used to harness the potential of medicinal plants, tissue culture stands out as a pivotal method for propagation, conservation, and production of bioactive compounds.

High-frequency shoot regeneration from leaf explant callus cultures represents a critical aspect of plant tissue culture, particularly in the context of medicinal plants. This technique allows for the rapid propagation of plant material under controlled conditions, ensuring genetic uniformity and scalability of production. By manipulating plant growth regulators (PGRs) and elicitors, researchers can optimize conditions to maximize shoot induction rates and enhance the production of secondary metabolites, such as alkaloids, flavonoids, and terpenoids, which are often responsible for the medicinal properties of these plants.

Studies have demonstrated successful shoot regeneration from callus cultures in various medicinal plants, including *Psoralea corylifolia*, *Glycyrrhiza glabra*, *Withania somnifera*, and *Catharanthus roseus*. For instance, research on *Catharanthus roseus* has highlighted the role of auxins and cytokinins in inducing high-frequency shoot regeneration from callus cultures (Murthy *et al*., 2008). Similarly, investigations on *Withania somnifera* have explored the effect of PGR combinations on shoot regeneration efficiency and secondary metabolite production (Khan *et al*., 2011).

Moreover, the use of elicitors such as salicylic acid (SA), methyl jasmonate (MeJA), and chitosan has been pivotal in enhancing secondary metabolite biosynthesis in shoot cultures derived from callus. These compounds induce stress responses in plants, leading to increased production of bioactive compounds with medicinal properties (Sharifi-Rad *et al*., 2021).

Psoralea corylifolia Linn., commonly known as "Bakuchiol," "Bavachi," or "Babchi," is a notable medicinal herb with widespread use in traditional medicine systems across Asia, Africa, and Europe. It is particularly valued for treating conditions like leucoderma, psoriasis, leprosy, vitiligo, and various skin infections (Kumar *et al*., 2017; Chen *et al*., 2019; Prajapati *et al*., 2018; Sharma *et al*., 2020). This is due to its rich phytochemical composition, which includes coumarins, flavonoids, and phenolic compounds such as psoralen, isopsoralen, and bakuchiol (Chen *et al*., 2023). These compounds exhibit a range of therapeutic activities, including antibacterial, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant properties (Gupta and Sharma, 2019; Smith *et al*., 2018).

Despite its pharmacological significance, P. corylifolia is facing the threat of extinction due to overharvesting and habitat degradation (Jones *et al*., 2017). This is particularly concerning in India, where the plant is widely distributed across various climates, from the Himalayan foothills to the Deccan Plateau (Kumar *et al*., 2016; Singh and Reddy, 2018). The widespread distribution underscores the urgent need for conservation strategies to protect this valuable species.

One promising approach to conservation is the use of plant tissue culture techniques, which can aid in the sustainable production of bioactive compounds (Murthy *et al*., 2019; Smith and Johnson, 2021). Research has laid the groundwork for understanding various aspects of tissue culture in *P. corylifolia*, including callus induction, multiple shoot induction, and elicitation techniques to enhance secondary metabolite production. Callus induction protocols have focused on optimizing conditions such as plant growth regulators (PGRs), explant type, and pretreatments (Choudhury *et al*., 2017). Similarly, studies on multiple shoot induction aim to establish efficient protocols for mass propagation using different hormone combinations and concentrations (Brown *et al*., 2020).

Elicitation strategies, particularly using salicylic acid, have shown promise in enhancing the production of secondary metabolites. Salicylic acid is known for its role as a signaling molecule in plant defense responses and has been effective in increasing the synthesis of bioactive compounds like coumarins and flavonoids in *P. corylifolia* (Alonso-Ramírez *et al*., 2009; Mandal *et al*., 2010). However, there is a need for further research to determine the optimal concentration and application methods of salicylic acid to maximize its elicitation potential in *P. corylifolia* tissue cultures.

While previous studies have explored callus and multiple shoot induction in *P. corylifolia*, there is a need for refined protocols and realistic approaches for scalable practices. Optimizing these techniques for secondary metabolite production is crucial for practical application (Choudhury et al., 2017; Brown *et al*., 2020). Additionally, exploring elicitation strategies to enhance secondary metabolite production is essential to maximize *P. corylifolia's* medicinal potential (Alonso-Ramírez *et al*., 2009; Mandal *et al*., 2010). The present study aims to address these gaps by presenting a pragmatic study on in vitro propagation. Through systematic experimentation, the present study aimed to elucidate optimized conditions for callus and multiple shoot induction, as well as feasible elicitation techniques. By bridging research findings with practical application, the present study contributes to conservation efforts and sustainable utilization of this plant (Murthy *et al*., 2019; Smith and Johnson, 2021).

Materials and Methods

Plant materials and growth conditions

Psoralea corylifolia Linn. plants were procured from the medicinal plant garden at the Department of Botany, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana, India. A voucher specimen (No.3564 KUH-PC-2023) was deposited in the herbarium of the Department of Botany, Kakatiya University. The plants were cultivated in pots under controlled greenhouse conditions with a 16-hour photoperiod, a temperature of 25 ± 2°C, and relative humidity of 60 ± 5%. Regular watering and NPK (20:20:20) fertilization were performed at 15-day intervals.

Callus induction from leaf explants

Various explants, including leaf, stem, and root, were collected from 8-week-old *P. corylifolia* plants grown in a net house for callus induction. The harvested explants were thoroughly washed and surface sterilized with a 0.1% (w/v) mercuric chloride (HgCl2) solution, followed by rinsing with sterile distilled water. The explants were then inoculated on Murashige and Skoog (MS)

media supplemented with various concentrations and combinations of plant growth regulators, including 2,4-D, NAA, and IAA, ranging from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/l. The pH of the medium was adjusted to 5.8 before autoclaving, and the medium was solidified with 0.9% (w/v) agar agar.

Cultures were observed for callus induction over a 4-week incubation period in a growth chamber under controlled conditions. The percentage of callus induction, along with the fresh and dry weight measurements, was recorded. Subculturing of the callus was performed every 4 weeks on the same medium. The percentages of culture responses, morphological characteristics, and calli were assessed to understand the impact of different plant growth regulators (PGRs) on callus induction.

Multiple shoot induction from callus cultures of *P. corylifolia*

Callus Induction and Shoot Culture:

P. corylifolia callus was induced using MS medium supplemented with 2 mg/l 2,4-D and various concentrations of BAP (1, 2, 3, and 4 mg/l). The medium pH was adjusted to 5.8 ± 2 before adding 0.9% agar agar, and the medium was autoclaved. The callus induced from leaves was aseptically transferred to this medium. Cultures were incubated under cool white fluorescent lights at 25 ± 2°C. Sub-culturing was performed every four weeks onto the same solid medium, and shoots were maintained in this medium for up to two sub-culturing cycles.

Elicitation of Multiple Shoots with Salicylic Acid:

Salicylic acid (SA) was used as an elicitor to investigate its effect on increasing psoralen content in multiple shoot cultures. A stock solution of SA was prepared by dissolving 150 mg in alcohol and sterile distilled water, followed by filter sterilization using a 0.22 µM bacterial filtration unit. Various concentrations of SA (10 µM, 20 µM, 50 µM, 100 µM) were added to the autoclaved medium using micro-pipettes. Two-week-old multiple shoots grown in solid medium were subjected to elicitation experiments with SA. Cultures were incubated under cool white, fluorescent lights at 25 ± 2°C and harvested weekly for up to 5 weeks for growth study and psoralen production analysis.

Quantitative Analysis of Psoralen:

Dried shoot cultures were finely powdered, and 50 mg of powder was placed in vials containing 5 ml of HPLC-grade methanol for 24 hours. The extract underwent ultra-sonication for 30 minutes in an ultrasonic cleaning bath and was filtered using Whatman filter paper No.41. Final filtration was performed through a 0.45 µM membrane (Millex HV, Millipore, Ireland). A 500 µl solution from the filtrate was transferred into HPLC vials for analysis. Psoralen samples were analyzed using HPLC (Waters, USA) with a Spherisorb C18 column (250×4.6 mm, 5 µM). Isocratic elution with HPLC-grade methanol was used as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. The column temperature was maintained at 25°C, and elution was monitored at 230 nm using Empower Pro software and a photodiode array detector (PDA) with a retention time of 2.6 ± 0.3 min. Authentic psoralen of 98% purity was procured from Sigma Aldrich, USA for analysis, and psoralen content was expressed as % DW of multiple shoot culture samples.

Statistical Analysis:

Experiments followed a completely randomized design with three replicates and ten explants per replicate. Data were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA), and means were compared using Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) at the 5% significance level. Statistical analysis was conducted using SPSS software (version 23.0), and graphical representations were generated using Microsoft Excel (version 2016).

Results

Effects of Plant Growth Regulators (PGRs) and Type of Explant on Callus Induction and Morphology

Various explants from *P. corylifolia* successfully induced calli on Murashige and Skoog (MS) medium supplemented with different concentrations of plant growth regulators (PGRs) including 2,4-D, NAA, and IAA. The highest percentage of callus induction was observed from leaf explants (90%), followed by stem explants (63%). A lower percentage of callus induction (41%) was observed from root explants (Table 1). Callus formation was evident after a 4-week inoculation period, and an additional 4 weeks of culture led to the harvest of the callus. The morphogenetic responses of *P. corylifolia* leaf explants to varying concentrations of 2,4-D, IAA, and NAA in MS medium are presented in Table 2.

Table 1. Effect of different explant on callus induction on MS medium with PGR (0.5-5.0 mg/L) 2,4-D/NAA/IAA

Explant	No. of Explants	Days to induce Callus	% of Culture Response
Leaf	30	15	90
Stem	30	12	63
Root	30	19	41

Table 2. Effect of various plant growth regulators on callus induction from leaf explants of *P. corylifolia*. On MS Medium with PGR (0.5-5.0 mg/L) 2,4-D/NAA/IAA

MS + PGR (mg/L)			**Culture response**	
2,4 D	**NAA**	**IAA**	**Morphological response**	**Frequency of response (Mean ± SD)****
0.5			White Compact	55.5 ± 0.836
1.0			White Compact	72 ± 0.816
2.0			Green Compact	**88.9 ± 0.068**
3.0			Green friable	**83.3 ± 0.836**
4.0			Creamy compact	50 ± 0.516
5.0			Callus	33.3 ± 0.408
	0.5		White friable***	22 ± 1.095
	1.0		White friable	50 ± 0.816
	2.0		Green friable	**83.3 ± 0.523**
	3.0		Creamy friable	61.1 ± 0.836
	4.0		Creamy friable	27.7 ± 0.635
	5.0		Callus	16.6 ± 1.224
		0.5	White Compact	44.4 ± 0.836
		1.0	White friable	66.6 ± 0.816
		2.0	Green friable	77.7 ± 0.654
		3.0	Green nodular	**88.9 ± 0.272**
		4.0	Green nodular	38.8 ± 0.453
		5.0	Callus	27.7± 0.245

* Data scored at the end of 4 weeks of culture based on 20 replicates

Mean + Standard Error, * White friable

Supplementation with growth regulators led to distinct differences in callus texture and color, as outlined in Table 2 and illustrated in Figure 1 (a-f). The optimal response was observed on MS medium enriched with 2.0 mg/l 2,4-D, where 85.0% of the plants responded, forming green compact callus. For NAA, the highest response rate was achieved at 3.0 mg/l, with plants exhibiting green friable callus. However, increasing NAA concentrations beyond 3.0 mg/l resulted in a decline in the percentage of responsive plants.

The study explored various concentrations of plant growth regulators (PGRs) ranging from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/L of 2,4-D, NAA, or IAA to induce callus from leaf explants of *P. corylifolia* on MS medium. The highest overall response rate, reaching 85.0%, was observed on MS medium supplemented with 3.0 mg/L of IAA. This indicates that IAA at this concentration was particularly effective in promoting callus formation from leaf explants of *P. corylifolia*. The study achieved a satisfactory 72% response rate across all tested PGR concentrations, demonstrating the potential of these regulators to optimize callus induction protocols in tissue culture studies of this medicinal plant species.

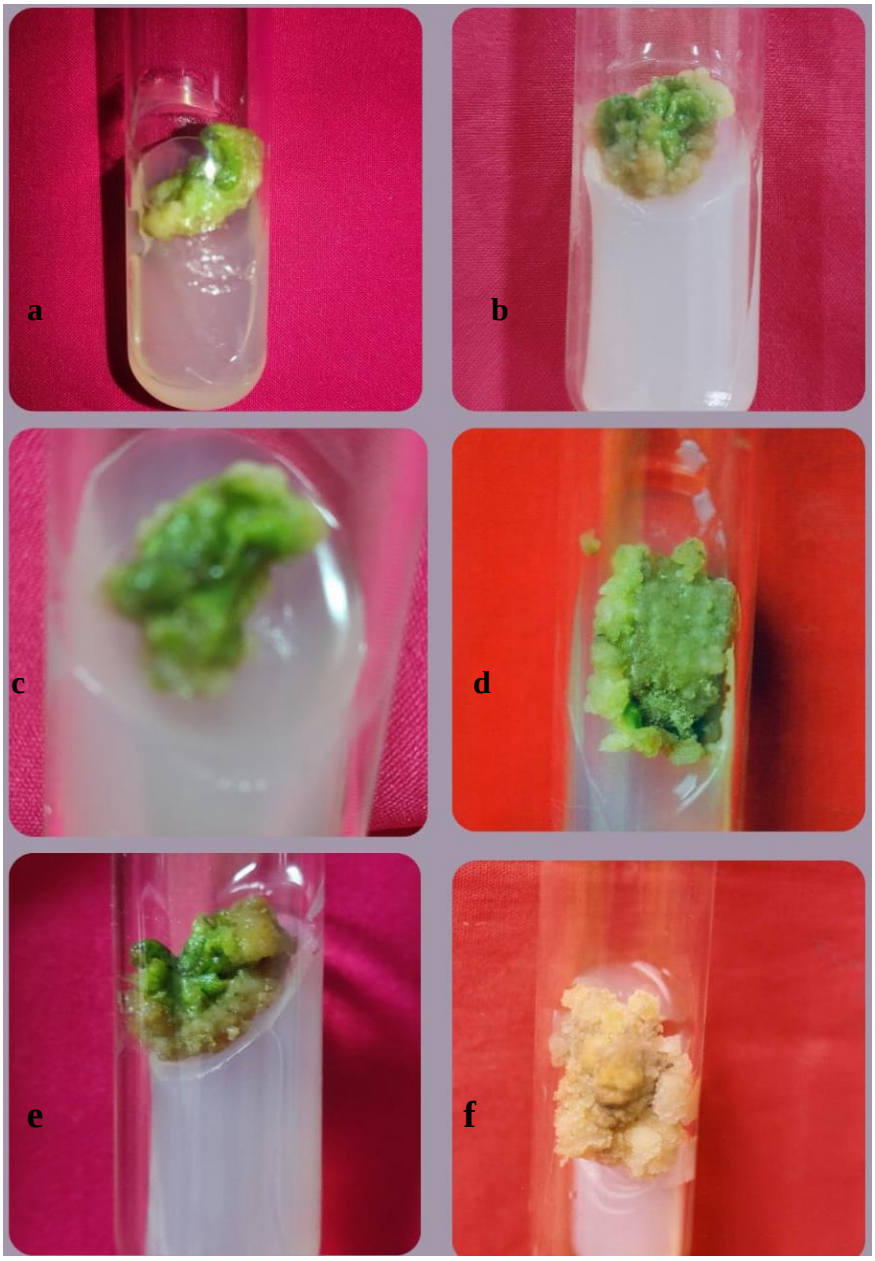


Fig1. Induction of callus on MS medium supplemented with various concentrations of 2,4D, IAA, and NAA. a) Green Compact, b) Callus, c) Green Compact, d) Green friable, e) Creamy compact, f) White friable*

Multiple Shoot Induction from Callus Cultures of *P. corylifolia*

The effects of different concentrations of plant growth regulators (PGRs) on multiple shoot induction from callus explants in MS medium are shown in Table 3. The study found that 2.0 mg/l BAP was the most effective, yielding the highest response frequency (76.39%) and the greatest average number of shoots per explant (15.9). Moderate concentrations of KN (1.0 mg/l) and TDZ (1.0 mg/l) also showed significant results, with response frequencies of 59.72% and 68.06%, respectively, and average shoots per explant of 9.5 and 6.8. The growth study focused on multiple shoot induction in MS medium supplemented with various concentrations of PGRs

(2.0 mg/l) including 2,4-D (ranging from 0.5 to 5.0 mg/l) and other growth regulators like KN, TDZ, or BAP over a 4-week period. The study achieved a consistent 72% response rate across all tested concentrations, indicating robust responsiveness ranging from 60% to 72%.

Higher concentrations of all PGRs generally led to decreased effectiveness, highlighting the importance of optimizing PGR concentrations for maximum shoot induction.

Table 3. Growth study of multiple shoot induction in MS medium supplemented with various concentrations of PGR On MS Medium with PGR (2.0mg/l) + 2,4-D (0.5-5.0 mg/L) KN/TDZ/BAP **for 4 weeks.**

MS + PGRS (mg/l)				% of callus responded	Frequency of response (Mean ± SD) **
2,4 D	**KN**	**TDZ**	**BAP**		
2.0	0.5			68	38.89 ± 0.836
2.0	1.0			70	59.72 ± 0.816
2.0	2.0			69	44.4 ± 0.836
2.0	3.0			70	56.94 ± 0.845
2.0	4.0			67	29.17 ± 0.516
2.0	5.0			66	40.28 ± 0.408
2.0		0.5		65	50.00 ± 1.095
2.0		1.0		67	68.06 ± 0.816
2.0		2.0		68	41.67 ± 0.836
2.0		3.0		65	45.80 ± 0.956
2.0		4.0		65	40.28 ± 0.443
2.0		5.0		60	30.56 ± 1.224
2.0			0.5	60	40.28 ± 0.836
2.0			1.0	64	50.00 ± 0.816
2.0			**2.0**	**72**	**76.39 ± 0.434**
2.0			3.0	67	38.89 ± 0.645
2.0			4.0	60	31.97 ± 0.213
2.0			5.0	60	30.56 ± 0.446

* Data scored at the end of 4 weeks of culture based on 20 replicates

**Mean + Standard Error.

Statistical Analysis of Shoot Induction from Callus Cultures of *P. corylifolia*

Statistical analysis confirmed significant differences in shoot induction among the various BAP concentrations at each time point ($p < 0.05$). Additionally, a discernible trend of decreasing shoot production with increasing BAP concentration over the four-week duration was observed (Table 4).

Table 4. Univariate ANOVA analysis illustrating the effect of different techniques on growth of multiple shoots after 14 days

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between groups	52764.750	32	17588.250	33.440	.000

Within groups	16830.889	32	525.965
Total	69595.639	35	

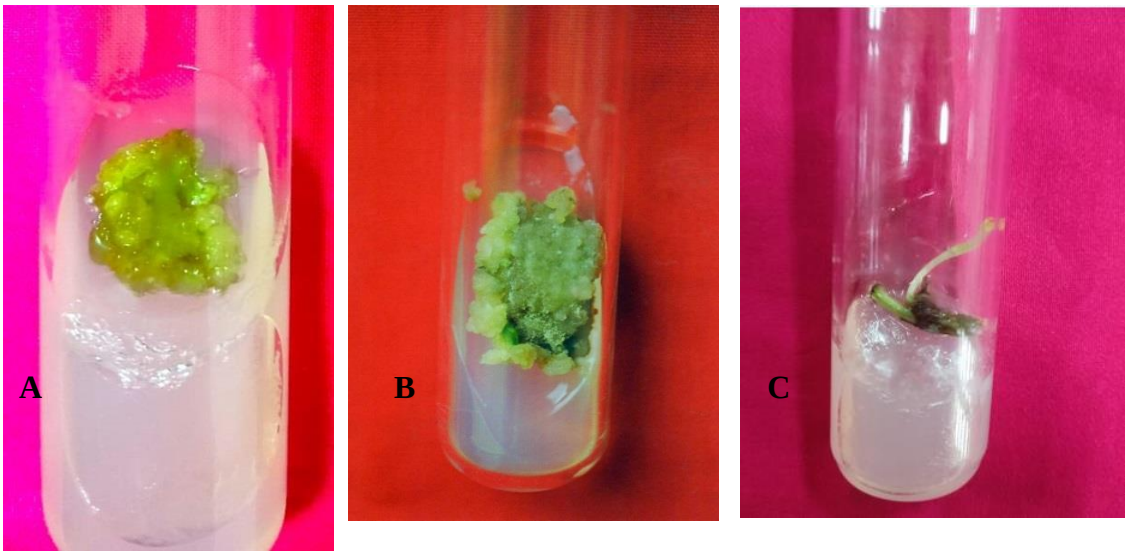


Fig 2. Multiple shoot induction from callus and regeneration of plants. A: Induction of Callus; B: Callus Multiplication; C: Multiple Shoot induction from callus

Elicitation of Psoralen in Multiple Shoot Cultures of *P. corylifolia*

The effect of elicitation with salicylic acid (SA) on psoralen production and biomass production was studied over a 5-week period in multiple shoot cultures of *P. corylifolia*. The results indicated that SA elicitation had an insignificant effect on growth and biomass production. However, lower concentrations of SA showed optimal biomass weights, albeit lower than the control. Here are the detailed findings:

Biomass Production and Growth Study

Optimal Biomass Production: The optimal biomass was observed at lower concentrations of SA, specifically at 10 µM and 20 µM, where the biomass percentages (expressed as % DW) were 0.365667% and 0.377%, respectively. Interestingly, even at 100 µM SA, similar biomass production (0.3815% DW) was observed in the 5th week.

Fresh Weight (FW) Trends:

During the study, observations on the fresh weight of multiple shoot cultures revealed significant changes across different weeks. In the first week, an increase in fresh weight was generally noted in all cultures compared to the control, except for the 20 µM SA treatment. By the second week, all cultures demonstrated increased fresh weights compared to their initial weights. In the third week, all cultures continued to show an increase in fresh weights, except for the 10 µM SA treatment. In the fourth week, only the 10 µM and 20 µM SA treatments exhibited increased fresh weights compared to the control. However, by the fifth

week, a decline in biomass was observed across all cultures compared to the untreated control, indicating that SA elicitation did not sustain growth over the entire period.

Highest Fresh Weight: The highest fresh weight of 5.006 grams was observed in the control cultures after the fifth week, indicating superior growth compared to SA-treated cultures.

Specific Growth Study Example

Comparison with Control: In the second week, the 10 µM SA treatment showed a notable 2.11-fold increase in fresh weight (4.08 grams) compared to the control (1.12 grams), highlighting an initial positive response to SA elicitation.

Fig 2: FW of multiple shoots after elicitation with SA

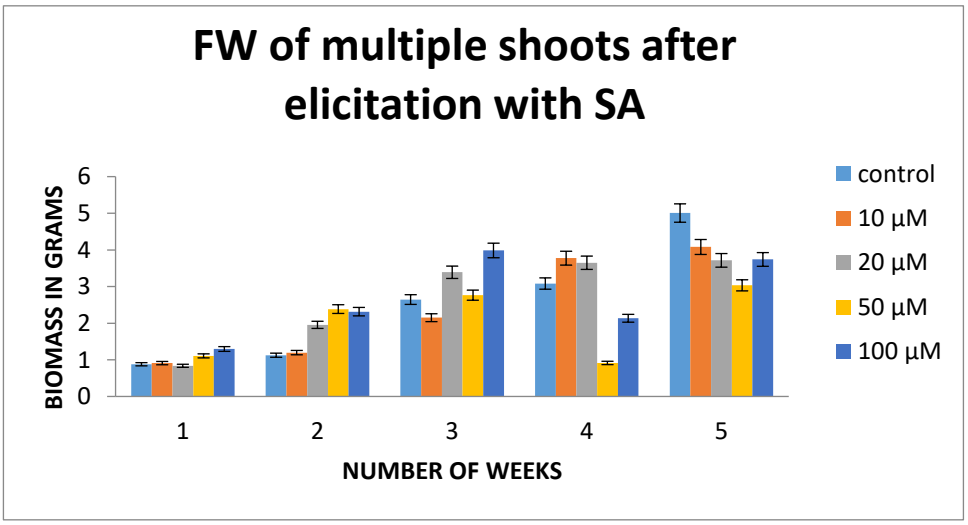
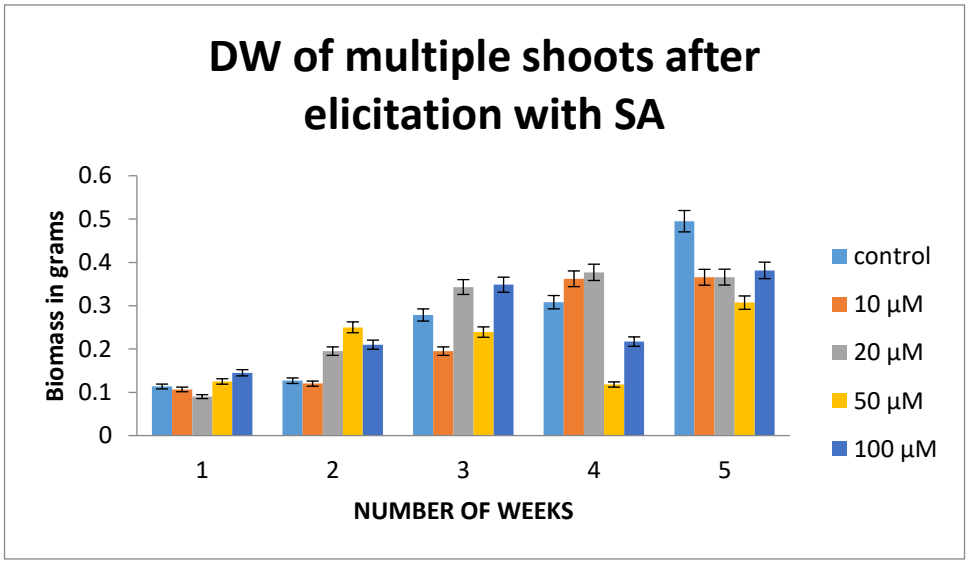


Fig 3: DW of multiple shoots after elicitation with SA



Content of psoralen in elicited multiple shoot cultures of Psoralia corylifolia

The study investigated the impact of salicylic acid (SA) elicitation on psoralen content in multiple shoot cultures of *P. corylifolia* over a 5-week period. Here are the detailed findings on psoralen content:

The highest psoralen content observed was 5.6% dry weight in cultures treated with 20 µM SA during the first week, compared to the control. Significant increases in psoralen content were also noted in other concentrations:

- 10 µM SA: 4.3% dry weight,100 µM SA: Similar to 10 µM

Specifically, a 2.17-fold increase in psoralen content was observed in the 20 µM SA treatment compared to the control in the first week. A 1.6-fold increase was noted in the 10 µM SA treatment, and a 1.27-fold increase in the 100 µM SA treatment, showing varied responses to SA concentrations.

In the third week, all concentrations showed slight increases in psoralen content, with a notable 1.8-fold increase in the 20 µM SA treatment compared to the control.

By the fourth week, a 1.47-fold increase in psoralen content was observed in the 50 µM SA treatment, and a 1.21-fold increase in the 20 µM SA treatment. Psoralen content decreased in other concentrations compared to previous weeks.

In the fifth week, a 1.3-fold increase in psoralen content was observed in the 100 µM SA treatment, and a 1.06-fold increase in the 20 µM SA treatment compared to the control. Psoralen content decreased in other concentrations compared to previous weeks.

These results demonstrate that SA elicitation initially enhances psoralen production in *P. corylifolia* cultures, particularly in the first weeks of treatment. The 20 µM SA concentration consistently showed the highest increases in psoralen content across multiple weeks, indicating its efficacy as an elicitor. These findings suggest potential applications for optimizing secondary metabolite production in medicinal plants through SA elicitation, warranting further investigation into refining elicitation protocols and exploring commercial implications in industries such as pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

Fig 3: Content of *psoralen* in multiple shoots of *P. corylifolia* after elicitation with Salicylic acid.

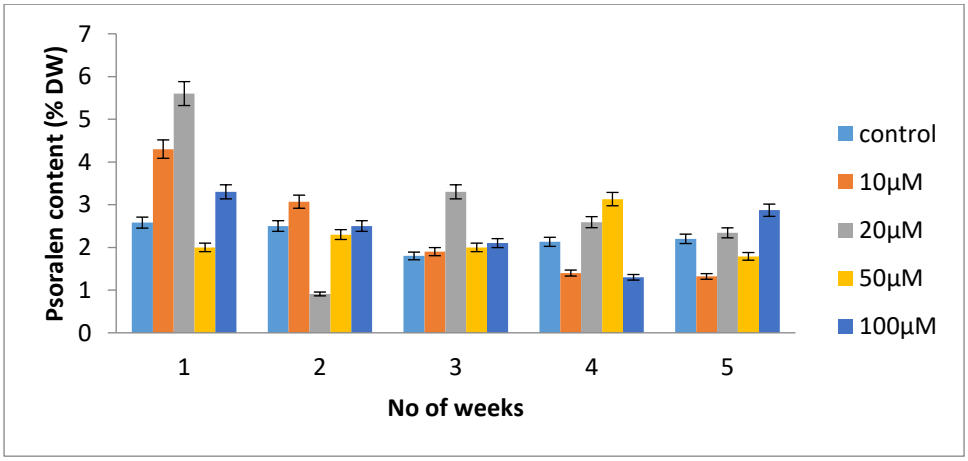
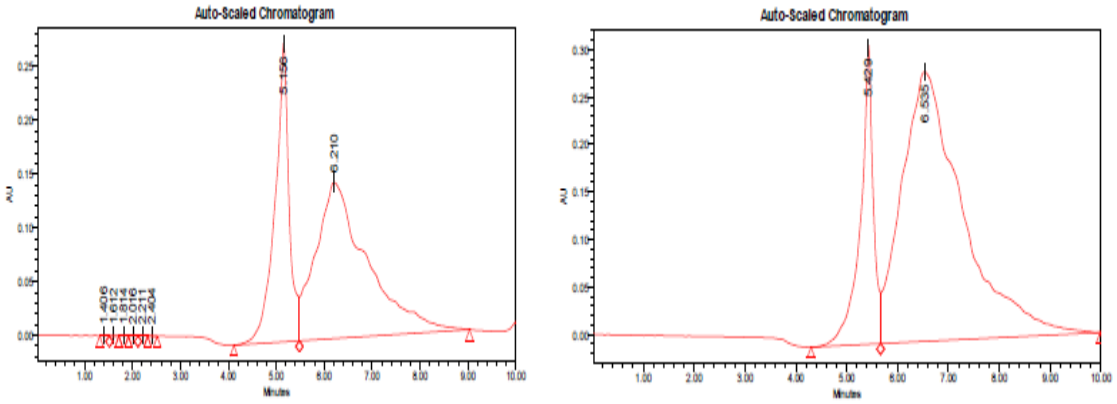


Fig 4: HPLC peaks showing the area of elicited multiple shoot cultures with SA



1st week Control

1st week 20 µM

Discussion

The study explored the effects of plant growth regulators (PGRs) on callus induction and morphogenesis using leaf explants of *P. corylifolia*, highlighting the importance of optimizing hormonal conditions for efficient tissue culture. The research findings align with previous studies on other plant species like *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Nicotiana tabacum*, and *Solanum lycopersicum*, where 2,4-D, IAA, and NAA at concentrations of 2.0 mg/L and 3.0 mg/L induced optimal callus formation. Higher concentrations of PGRs resulted in varied callus textures, such as creamy compact and green nodular forms. Notably, embryogenic callus formation at low concentrations of NAA (0.5 mg/L) underscores its potential for future tissue culture applications.

The rapid proliferation of callus within 15 days on MS media supplemented with different PGR concentrations emphasizes the critical role of auxins in initiating callus growth. This rapid response underscores the need for precise control over PGR concentrations to achieve efficient callus induction, as demonstrated by variations observed across different studies.

The study also investigated the impact of salicylic acid (SA) elicitation on growth, biomass production, and secondary metabolite content in multiple shoot cultures of *P. corylifolia*. While SA did not significantly enhance biomass production, it demonstrated a dose-dependent effect on psoralen content, a key secondary metabolite. Optimal psoralen production was observed at lower SA concentrations (10 µM, 20 µM, and 100 µM), highlighting the complex regulatory mechanisms governing secondary metabolite biosynthesis under elicitor-induced stress conditions.

Overall, these findings contribute to optimizing tissue culture protocols for *P. corylifolia*, enhancing our understanding of how PGRs and elicitors influence callus initiation, growth, and secondary metabolite production. This knowledge is essential for developing sustainable practices in plant biotechnology, particularly in the production of bioactive compounds for pharmaceutical and herbal medicine applications.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study establishes optimal conditions for callus induction and multiple shoot proliferation in *Psoralea corylifolia*, a plant of significant medicinal value. The research underscores the pivotal role of explant type and plant growth regulators (PGRs) in shaping callus morphology and enhancing induction efficiency. Among the explants tested, leaf explants proved most effective for callus induction compared to stem and root explants. Fine-tuning PGR concentrations, particularly at 2.0 mg/L and 3.0 mg/L, was crucial in maximizing callus formation rates. The rapid proliferation of callus within 15 days on PGR-supplemented media highlights the efficacy of auxins in facilitating large-scale in vitro propagation.

Furthermore, the study explored the impact of salicylic acid (SA) elicitation on growth and secondary metabolite production in *P. corylifolia*. While SA did not significantly increase biomass production, it demonstrated a dose-dependent effect on psoralen content. Optimal concentrations of SA, particularly at 10 µM and 20 µM, exhibited the highest psoralen content, suggesting its potential as an elicitor for enhancing secondary metabolites. The observed biphasic dose-response relationship of SA underscores the intricate regulatory mechanisms involved in secondary metabolite biosynthesis.

Overall, these findings provide valuable insights into optimizing tissue culture techniques for *P. corylifolia*, advancing both plant biotechnology and the cultivation of medicinal plants. This research offers a reliable and scalable approach for producing bioactive compounds, benefiting industries involved in pharmaceuticals and herbal medicine. By enhancing our understanding of tissue culture optimization and elicitation strategies, this study contributes to sustainable practices in plant-based medicine and biotechnology.

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