

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE NO.
I INTRODUCTION	1 - 22
II MATERIALS AND METHODS	23 - 34
1. Plant Material	
2. Chemicals	
3. Culture Vessels	
4. Chemical Analysis	
5. Composition and Preparation of Media	
6. Sterilization of Media and Culture Vessels	
7. Aseptic Technique	
8. Establishment and Maintenance of Cultures	
9. Cytological Methods	
10. Diploidisation	
11. Preparation of Coconut Milk	
12. Measurement of Growth	
13. Chemical Analysis of Cultured Roots/Callus	
14. Histological Studies	
15. Photography	
III RESULTS	35 - 83
(A) IN VIVO SCREENING OF PLANTS	
Experiment 1	Screening of <i>Withania somnifera</i> (L.) Dunal plants for their alkaloid contents
Experiment 2	Selection of 'elite' <i>W. somnifera</i> (L.) Dunal plant

CHAPTER**PAGE NO.**

- Experiment 3** Screening of individual organs of 'elite' plant
- Experiment 4** Alkaloid contents of roots of *W. somnifera* from various localities

(B) IN VITRO EXCISED ROOT CULTURE

- Experiment 5** Selection of suitable culture medium for excised roots
- Experiment 6** Standardisation of MS medium salt concentrations for optimal growth of excised roots
- Experiment 7** Effect of phytohormones on the growth of excised roots in culture
- (i) Effect of cytokinins
Kn/BAP
- (ii) Effect of auxins
IAA/IBA/NAA/2,4-D
- Experiment 8** Effect of IAA in combination with IBA on the growth of excised roots in culture
- Experiment 9** Effect of different carbohydrates (Glucose / Sucrose / Mannitol) on the growth of excised roots in culture
- Experiment 10** Determination of optimal level of sucrose necessary for continuous growth of cultured roots

Experiment 11 Growth kinetics of cultured roots

Experiment 12 Effect of precursor (L-ornithine) feeding to the cultured roots

(C) CALLUS CULTURES

Experiment 13 Establishment of callus cultures from *W. somnifera* plant organs

Experiment 14 Biomass production of callus tissues

(a) Effect of Kn levels

(b) Effect of 2,4-D levels

Experiment 15 Effect of various carbohydrates (Glucose/Sucrose/Mannitol) on callus tissues

Experiment 16 Determination of optimal sucrose level for biomass production

Experiment 17 Growth kinetics and Tropine profile of callus cultures

(a) Growth kinetics

(b) Tropine profile of hypocotyl / leaf callus tissues

Experiment 18 Studies on suspension cultures

(a) Establishment of suspension culture of leaf callus

CHAPTER**PAGE NO.**

- (b) Growth Kinetics of suspension culture
- Experiment 19** Effect of precursor - L-ornithine feeding on tropine contents of the suspension cultures
- Experiment 20** Selection of high yielding cell-lines
- Experiment 21** Morphogenetic potential of callus cultures
- Experiment 22** Regenerative potential of excised leaves

(D) PRODUCTION OF ANDROGENIC HAPLOIDS

- Experiment 23** Selection of suitable age of bud for the induction of haploids
- (a) Age of bud
- (b) Suitable stage of development of pollens for haploid induction
- Experiment 24** Effect of coconut milk on anther / pollen culture
- Experiment 25** Production of homozygous diploids

IV	GENERAL DISCUSSION	84 - 101
	SUMMARY	102 - 106
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	107 - 131