

Poster

USE OF LOW COST ALTERNATIVES TO MICRO PROPAGATION OF FLORICULTURAL CROPS IN HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

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ABSTRACT

One of the major problems in floriculture industry is the unavailability quality planting materials in large quantities for commercial farming. Though micro propagation is an effective method, it has been limited to large scale companies because it warrants advance production technologies and high material cost. Micro propagation of floriculture crops is possible in small scale production facilities at household level, if simplified technologies are available. A series of experiments have been conducted at RARDC, Bandarawela to select effective low cost alternatives for nutrient medium and substrate to be used in micro propagation. Chrysanthemum, Gerbera, Anthurium, Madonna lily, and Lisianthus were tested on a series of concentration of (0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5 g/l) Albert's solution as the nutrient supply with Murashige and Skoog (MS) medium. As the substrate, coir dust was used instead of Agar. Results indicated that Chrysanthemum, Gerbera, Anthurium, Madonna lily, and Lisianthus can be successfully micro propagated at household level by using 2 g/l Albert's solution as the nutrient solution at pH of 6.5 and coir dust as the substrate.