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Effects of Phytohormone and Regulators on Shoot Tip and Nodal Explants for *In Vitro* Shoot and Root Clonal Propagation of *Vitex negundo* L

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ABSTRACT

Medicinal plants are one of the most vital natural resources, but many of them are currently endangered due to habitat loss. Consequently, it is critical to emphasize the importance of using micropropagation techniques for mass propagation of plantlets on a commercial scale, in addition to germplasm conservation and distribution. Nodal explants and shoot tips were expunged from 15 days of the explant by aseptic seedlings, an effective, quick, and better *in vitro* plant regeneration procedure for *Vitex negundo* L. has been developed. The recent study was considered to develop an *in vitro* procedure for the regeneration of *V. negundo* L., a traditional medicinal plant. Nodal segments and shoot tips were cultivated on MS medium enhanced with numerous plant growth regulators. For multiple shoots and root regeneration, various cytokinins were examined. 6-benzyl-aminopurin (BAP), kinetin (Kin), and 1H-indole-3-butanoic acid (IBA) were all tested as a supplement to Murashige and Skoog (MS) medium including auxin phytohormone, such as Indole acetic acid (IAA) and 1-naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA). The furthest effective surface sterilization treatment for explants of *V. negundo* has been found 0.1% HgCl₂ for 8 minutes. In all treatments, multiple shoots were collected from shoot tips and nodal segments. In MS media added with 2.0mg/l BAP, the most shoots were seen in *V. negundo*. Furthermore, *V. negundo* regeneration shoots rooted effectively in half MS containing 1.0 mg/l IBA. Finally, proliferated plantlets were effectively adapted in soil, where they grew normally without morphological anomalies and had a survival rate of 92 percent.

Keywords: *In vitro* regeneration, Medicinal plant, *Vitex negundo*, Phytohormone, and Growth regulators.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Tissue culture of the plant is an *in vitro* approach that has appeared as a promising means of propagation and enhancing genomic variety for plant enhancement, and it is used in a variety of industries including agriculture, horticulture, and forestry (Nitish and Reddy,

2011). Plant tissue culture is the process of developing plant components in an artificial medium so that they can regenerate into new plants. In 1902, a German scientist named Haberlandt got promising results on in-vitro plant growth, making him the first to put plant tissue culture into practice. The best vital advantage of

aseptic clonal propagation over traditional methods is the ability to develop a large numeral of plants from a single plant in a short amount of time and space (Zhi-Qiang *et al.*, 2020).

Micropropagation has been used to propagate a variety of plant species, including several therapeutic plants (Lyndsey *et al.*, 1986; Murashige, 1977). The regeneration of therapeutic plants such as *Catharanthus roseus*, *Cinchona ledgeriana*, and *Digitalis spp.*, as well as *Rehmannia gluthinosa*, *Rauwolfia serpentina*, and *Isoplexis canariensis* from the shoot and stem meristems, has shown encouraging results. (Paek *et al.*, 1995; Perez *et al.*, 2002; Salma *et al.*, 2008). The high quality of such medicinal plants could be capable to fulfill both the desires of our pharma companies and our basic needs (Wenle *et al.*, 2020). *V. negundo* (Linn.) is a well-known traditional medicinal plant with a wide range of pharmacological properties (Yo-gendra *et al.*, 2020). The plant includes a wealth of phytochemicals or secondary metabolites from root to fruit, giving it an unmatched range of medical applications (Neha *et al.*, 2021). The current study deals with the comparative performances of a variety of cytokinins including IBA, BAP, and Kinwere all tested singly or in numerous mixtures to MS medium with also the various combination of NAA, and IAA on the *in vitro* revival of root and shoot by using shoot tips and nodal segments of *V. negundo* by successful restoration plants into field environments.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

2.1 Explants preparation and inoculation - The explant source was *V. negundo*, which was found from a commercial field in Gulshan in the Dhaka district, Bangladesh. The extraneous elements of the gathered materials, such as mature shoots and leaves, were eliminated. The remaining shoot segments were split into nodal segments of a manageable length (3-4 cm) and kept in a separate conical flask. The components were first rinsed under running water, then put in a conical flask filled with purified water and a few droplets of "Tween 20" and washed for 10 minutes while shaking constantly. To remove all residues of the foregoing substances, the second washing was done with an advanced change of distilled water. For surface sterilization, the selected explants were rinsed with 70% ethyl alcohol followed by washing with DW. To

maintain appropriate time for contamination-free culture, surfaces were disinfected with 0.1% HgCl₂ solution for varied times (6, 8, and 10 minutes). After that, they were washed in sterile DW used for 10 minutes, resulting in 4-5 changes. It was detected that sterilizing shoot tips for 8 minutes with 0.1% HgCl₂ was beneficial. Explants were properly inoculated in culture glass tubes with agar gelled nutritional media supplied with various hormone doses. During inoculation, extra caution was needed to confirm that the explants penetrated but did not drop into the medium.

2.2 Nutrient Media and culture condition - For shoot regeneration and multiplication, along with root induction, Murashige and Skoog, (1962) media added with numerous quantities and mixtures of growth regulators was utilized. The pH generally adjusted to 5.0-6.0 of the medium before autoclaving. As a solidifying or gelling agent, agar was usually used in the generation of semisolid (or solid) tissue culture medium. 7 gm (0.7%) agar was added to the present culture medium. Autoclaving at 1.05 kg/cm² pressure used for 20 minutes at 121°C disinfected the culture vessels. Inoculated culture containers were situated in a growth chamber, which provided a unique cultural environment. In the growing chamber, the vessels were arranged on the shelves of a cabinet. All cultures were maintained in a growth chamber with 40-watt white fluorescent tubes installed 30-40 cm away from the culture shelves. The cultures were kept at 26°C for 16 hours with a light power of 1500 lux (about) emitted from fluorescent tubes. Each day, the reactivity to the culture vessels was measured.

2.3 Shoot initiation and propagation from nodal segments and shoot tips - In this investigation, nodal segments and shoot tips of *V. negundo* were cultured on MS media containing various concentrations of BAP and Kinetin (0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 mg/l). Furthermore, for shoot development in this experiment, various proportions of BAP (1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 5.0 mg/l) in conjunction with NAA (0.1, 0.2, 0.5 mg/l) and Kinetin (1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 5.0 mg/l) in mixture with NAA (0.5 and 0.1 mg/l) were utilized.

2.4 Subculture - During culturing, different amounts of 2,4-D (0.5, 1, and 1 mg/l) were used, along with varying doses of BAP (2.0, 3.0 mg/l).

2.5 Root initiation and multiplication - For root induction from micro-cutting of *in vitro* regenerated shoots of *V. negundo*, different proportions of NAA (0.1, 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/l) and IBA (0.1, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/l) in half-strength MS medium and MS₀ medium were used.

2.6 Acclimatization and transfer of plantlets to soil

The regenerated explants were regarded appropriate for soil transfer after establishing a considerable root system. The growing plants were carefully excised from the culture jars. The roots of the plantlets were carefully rinsed under running tap water to eliminate any agar that had stuck to the root zone. They were immediately placed in small polythene bags with a 1:1:1 mixture of sand, compost, and soil after being washed. The plantlets in pots were enclosed with polythene bags to prevent sudden deformation. Interior sides of this bag were sprayed with water each 24 hours to keep high humidity around the growing plants. The plantlets were gradually vulnerable to the outside normal environment by perforating the polythene envelopes, which were then removed after seven days. By this point, the plantlets have embedded them in the soil. They were eventually relocated to a test field.

2.7 Statistical analysis - All of the tests were repeated three times, with each treatment receiving an average of 25 replicates. SPSS ver. 16 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, USA) were used to perform statistical calculations of the data. DMRT (Duncan's multiple range test) was used to determine the significance of variations between means at $P \leq 0.05$. The results of the three experiments are reported as means and standard deviations. Data were collected using the following parameters and the methods for data collection are given below:

i) For shoot induction

a) Percentage of explants induced shoots

After the needed days of culture, data on various parameters from various treatments of shoot proliferation were recorded. The subsequent method was used to compute the percentages of explants that developed adventitious shoots.

$$\text{Explants induced shoot (\%)} = \frac{\text{Number of culture induced shoot}}{\text{Total number of explants inoculated}} \times 100$$

b) Shoots number per plantlet

After the required days of culture, the shoot numbers of each explant were calculated. The subsequent method was used to calculate the mean number of adventitious shoots for each explant.

$$\text{Mean number of shoot} = \frac{\text{Total number of shoot}}{\text{Quantity of regenerated explants}}$$

c) Length of lengthiest shoot

For each explant, the length of the lengthiest shoot was measured on a cm-scale. The subsequent calculation was used to decide the average length of the shoot.

$$\text{The average length of shoot} = \frac{\text{Total length of Shoot}}{\text{number of shoot}}$$

ii) For root induction

a) Percentage of explants induced roots

The frequency of shoots induced to develop roots was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\text{Frequency of shoots induced roots} = \frac{\text{Number of culture induced root}}{\text{Total number of explants inoculated}} \times 100$$

b) Number of roots per shoot

After the required days of culture, the number of roots per shoot was calculated. Using the similar technique as for the number of shoots per explants, the mean numbers of roots and SE per shoot were computed.

c) Mean length of the root

For each shoot, the average length of the longest root was measured in centimeters. As previously stated, the average length of the root was computed.

$$\text{The average length of the root} = \frac{\text{Total length of root}}{\text{Total number of observation}}$$

3. RESULTS

3.1 Standardization of explant (*Vitex negundo* L.) surface sterilization

After cutting into suitable size the nodal segments and shoot tips of *V. negundo* were washed with the continuous flowing of tap water for 20m and then treated with antiseptic (4-5 drops liquid soap along with 2-3 drops of Tween-20) and then again washed with ddH₂O. HgCl₂ was utilized as a surface sterilant for the plant used in this investigation. After one week of sterilization and inoculation it was detected that, when the experimented plant parts were treated with 0.1% HgCl₂ for 8 minutes, 95% of *V. negundo* L. explants were found contamination-free and healthy also. Ex-

plants treated for a longer time (8-10 minutes), causes no contamination but partial or complete tissue killing was observed (S-1).

3.2 Micropropagation through manifold shoot initiation and subsequent development from shoot tip and nodal part of *V. negundo*

3.2.1 Shoot Multiplication through Shoot Tip Culture - Shoot tips approximately 1-2 cm in size were obtained from field-grown plants and cultivated in MS medium with various doses and mixtures of plant growth regulators (cytokinins and auxins) to determine the best culture media for the multiplication of shoot (Shahen *et al.*, 2019).

3.2.1.1 Effects of diverse concentrations of BAP and Kinetin on shoot initiation

Shoot tips were cultivated on MS media added with different doses of BAP, Kinetin (0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 mg/l) in this experiment. After 20-25 days, the cultured explants began to develop. In the instance of BAP, the proportion of cultures that responded to shoot formation at various levels ranging from 33.3 to 73.3%. When explants were cultivated in media added by 3.0 mg/l BAP, the greatest percentage of shoot induction was observed (Fig 1A-1C, 1F). Conversely, the response of shoot formation to different levels of Kinetin ranged from 33.3 to 73.3%, with the greatest response observed at 1.0 mg/l concentration (Table 1).

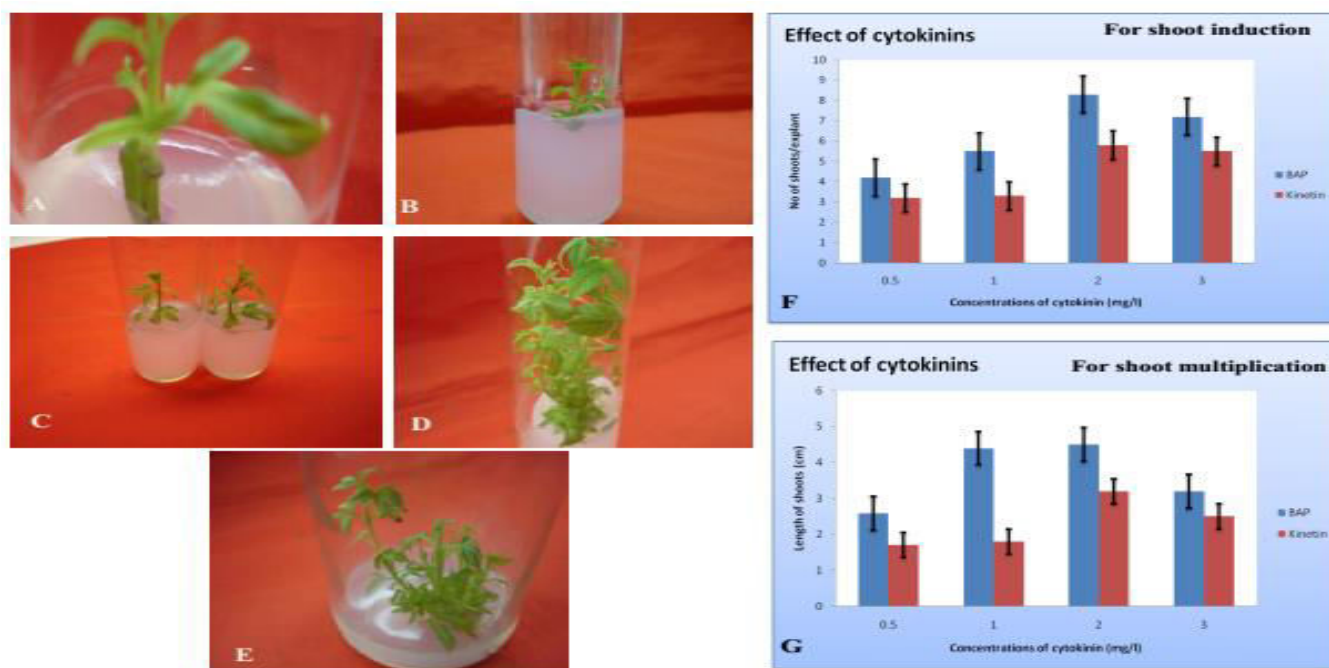


Fig 1: Regeneration of *V. negundo* L. by using shoot tip through the *in-vitro* process. (A) Induction of shoot tip of *V. negundo* L. on MS culture medium; (B-C) Shoot development; (D) Using shoot tip explant from *V. negundo* L. for the induction of manifold shoots on MS medium containing 2mg/l BAP, Production of multiple shoots; (E) Development of multiple shoots; (F) Effects of different measures of Cytokinins (BAP and Kinetin); (G) Effects of different combinations of BAP and Kinetin on shoot length in *V. negundo* L.

3.2.1.2 Effects of cytokines on the stimulation of multiple Shoots in *V. negundo*

Effects of diverse concentrations of BAP and Kinetin - The number of shoots enlarged progressively in all mediums supplemented with variable BAP and Kinetin (0.5, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0 mg/l) concentrations through the culture period. The results of the records collected after 45 days of culture are provided in (S-2). On MS medium comprising 2.0 mg/l of BAP, the highest

response for shoot expansion was seen, with a frequency of 8.3 shoots per explant growing to a height of 4.5 cm. The medium including 0.5 mg/l of BAP, the lowest percentage (46.6%) was discovered. In a medium having 2.0 mg/l of Kinetin, 73.3% of cultures responded, with an average of 5.8 shoots and 3.2 cm in length (Fig 1D-1F, 1G). Besides, the medium added by 0.5 mg/l Kinetin showed the lowest response (S-2).

Table 1: Effects of Diverse Concentrations of Cytokinins on shoot initiation from shoot tip.

Treatment (mg/l)		Explants number for inoculation	% of explants producing the shoot	Days to shoot initiation	Shoot number (Average)/explant	The average length of the shoot (cm)
BAP	0.5	25	46.6	9	0.60±0.51	0.58±0.1
	1.0	20	53.3	7	0.71±0.13	1.12±0.19
	2.0	25	68.3	6	0.72±0.22	1.1±0.18
	3.0	30	80	6	1.5±0.30	1.5±0.42
Kinetin	0.5	35	33.3	11	1.1±0.29	0.78±0.19
	1.0	25	73.3	7	1.12±0.18	1±0.19
	2.0	15	68.3	6	0.85±0.28	1.2±0.31
	3.0	30	46.6	10	1.1±0.21	0.98±0.15

Effects of various levels of BAP with Kinetin

In vitro developed shoots were individually cultured by MS medium enhanced with three concentrations and mixtures of BAP with Kinetin. Among the three concentrations highest (80%) and the lowest (53.3%) percentage of multiple shooting were observed in the medium added with 0.5 mg/l BAP + 1.0 mg/l Kinetin and 1.0 mg/l BAP + 0.5 mg/l Kinetin. After 90 days of cultivation, data was obtained. Furthermore, the cultured plantlets in the mixture comprising 0.5 mg/l of BAP + 1.0 mg/l of Kinetin had the largest average size of shoots (3.2 cm) (S-2).

3.2.1.3 Effects of cytokinins with auxins on the regenerating of multiple shoots

For shoot development, diverse BAP concentrations (1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 mg/l) in mixture with NAA (0.1, 0.2, and 0.5 mg/l) were utilized, along with diverse concentrations of Kinetin (1.0, 2.0, 3.0, and 5.0 mg/l) in mixture with NAA (0.5 and 0.1 mg/l) (S-3). Among the various concentrations and mixtures of cytokinins and NAA, the maximum active implementation for enhancing multiple shoots was found on 3.0 mg/l BAP + 0.1 mg/l NAA, with an average of 93.3% responding to shoot formation, including the lengthiest shoot length (3.9 cm) and the most shoots each culture (7.6) (Table 2).

Table 2: Shoot Multiplication through shoot tip.

Treatment (mg/l)		% of explants producing the shoot	Average number of the shoot/explant	The average length of the shoot (cm)
BAP	2.0	90	8.3±1.14	4.5±0.48
Kinetin	2.0	73.3	5.8±0.42	3.2±0.31
BAP+ NAA	3.0+0.1	93.3	7.6±0.79	3.9±0.32
BAP+IAA	2+0.1	86.6	6.0±0.61	4.2±0.51
Kinetin+NAA	3.0+0.1	87	5.8±0.66	1.94±0.4
Kinetin+IAA	2.0+0.1	73.3	5.5±0.41	1.8±0.41

Instead, the medium containing 2.0 mg/l BAP +0.1 mg/l IAA produced the highest proportion (86.6%) of culture (Table 2, Fig 3A-3B).

Again, the most successful compositions for multiple shoots induction were observed to be 3.0 mg/l Kinetin +0.1 mg/l NAA, with averages of 87% culture reacted to shoot formation, including shoot per explant of 5.8 and the average size of shoot 1.94 cm long in asimilar media. Subsequently 90 days, the culture data were collected (Table 2).

The highest percentage of culture reacted 86.6% in a medium having 3.0 mg/l Kinetin +0.1 mg/l IAA, with an average quantity of shoots per explant of 5.5 in the similar media. After 90 days of culture, all data were collected (Fig 3C-3D) (S-3).

3.2.2. Shoot Multiplication through Nodal Segment Culture

- For the multiplication of shoots, nodal segments of the field-grown plants were cultured on MS medium added by various concentrations of BAP, Kinetin alone, or in combination with NAA and IAA.

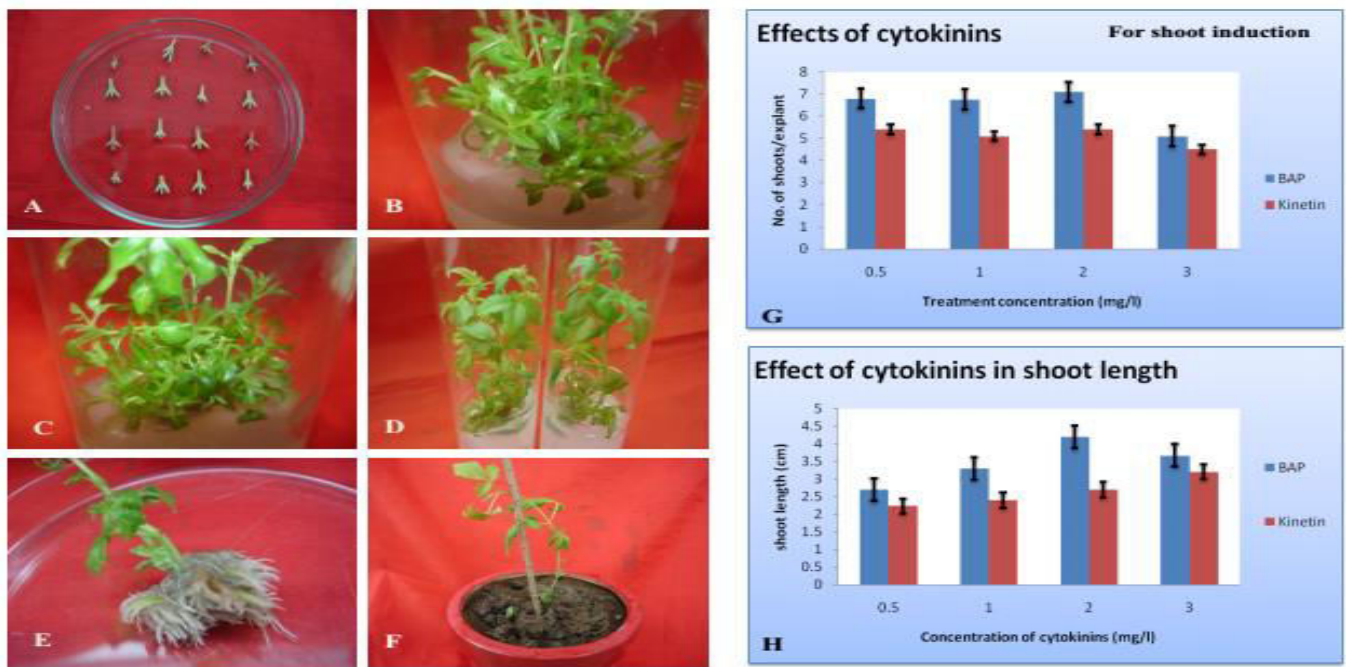


Fig 2: *In vitro* regeneration of *V. negundo* L. by using nodal segment. (A) The nodal segment of *V. negundo* L. is used as an explant source; (B) Induction of numerous shoots by nodal segment culture; (C) Development of multiple shoots from the nodal segment; (D) Shoot development and elongation from the regenerated shoot (after 9 weeks) of culture; (E) Rooting of *in vitro* regenerated shoots in *V. negundo* L.; (F) Acclimatized of plantlets; (G) Effects of combinations of BAP and Kinetin on the number of shoot/explant using nodal segment; (H) Effects of different concentrations of BAP and Kinetin on Shoot length of *V. negundo*.

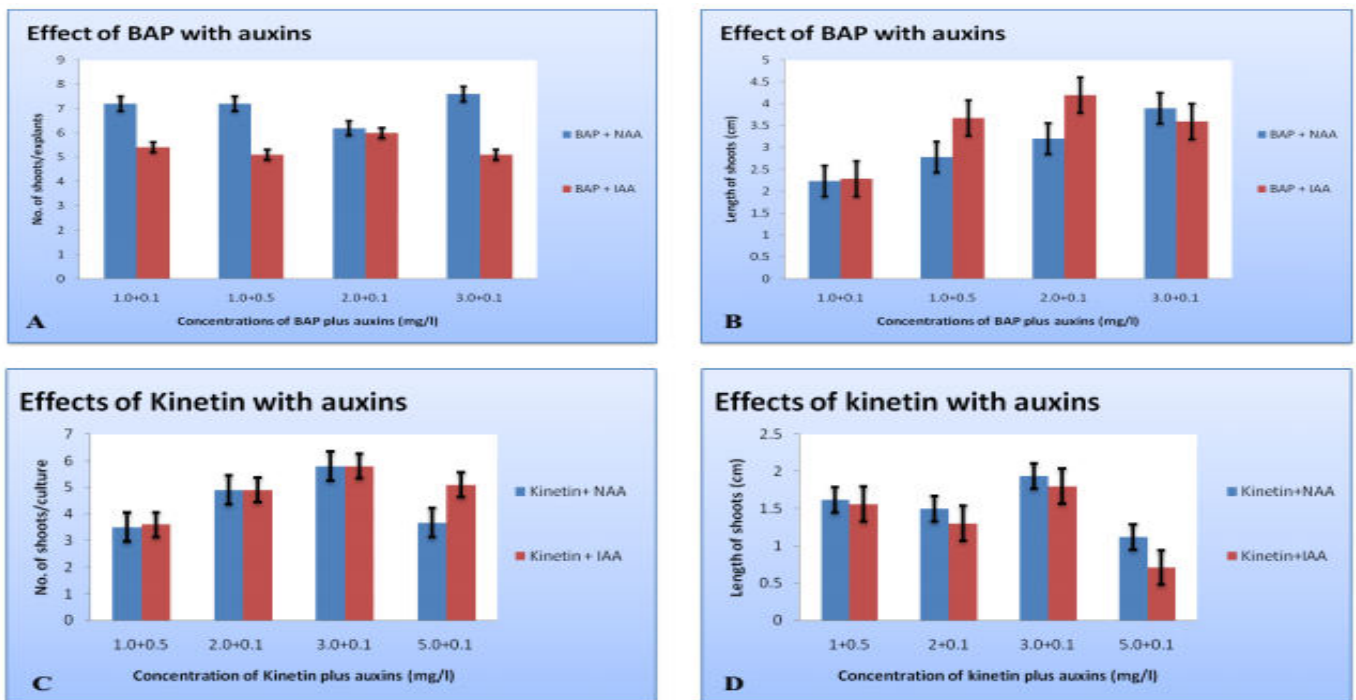


Fig 3: Effect of cytokinin with auxin for *in-vitro* rejuvenation from shoot tip of *V. negundo* L. (A) Effects of BAP with auxins (IAA and NAA) on the shoot/explant number by using shoot tip, (B) Effects of BAP with auxins (IAA and NAA) on shoot length of *V. negundo* L., (C) Effects of Kinetin with auxins (IAA and NAA) on the shoot the number of shoot/explant from shoot tip, (D) Effects of Kinetin with auxins (IAA and NAA) on shoot length of *V. negundo* L.

3.2.2.1 Shoot Induction by Diverse Concentration of Cytokinins

V. negundo nodal sections were cultivated on MS media added with diverse concentrations of BAP and Kinetin (0.5, 1.0, 2.0, and 5.0 mg/l) in this research. After 20-25 days, the cultured explants began to develop. Shoot induction efficiencies with BAP added culture range from 33.3 to 87.5%. Furthermore, the cultures that responded to shoot development at

various Kinetin concentrations ranged from 33.3 to 68.3% (Table 3). Explants cultivated in medium added with 2.0 mg/l BAP demonstrated the utmost percentage of shoot induction, with 87.5% of explants showing the upper most shoot induction. 2.0 mg/l Kinetin, conversely, causes the most shoot proliferation, with 68.3% of explants showing the most shoot induction (Fig 2A-2B, 2G) (Table 3).

Table 3: Effects of Various concentrations of cytokinins on shoot stimulation from the nodal segment.

Treatment (mg/l)	Number of explants inoculated	% of explant producing the shoot	Days to shoot initiation	Shoot number (Average)/explant	Length of the shoot (cm) (Average)	
BAP	0.5	30	33.3	7	0.50±0.21	0.99±0.22
	1.0	20	53.3	6	0.70±0.13	1.12±0.19
	2.0	35	87.5	8	1.2±0.21	1.8±0.42
	3.0	25	68.3	9	0.72±0.65	1.12±0.12
Kinetin	0.5	25	33.3	10	1.3±0.29	0.72±0.15
	1.0	30	46.6	8	1.12±0.18	0.98±0.19
	2.0	20	68.3	7	1.5±0.28	1.2±0.31
	3.0	30	53.3	6	0.71±0.1	1.0±0.15

Table 4: Shoot Multiplication through the nodal segment.

Treatment(mg/l)	% of explants producing the shoot	Shoot number (Average)/explant	Length of the shoot(cm)(Average)	
BAP	1.0	87	7.1±0.68	4.2±0.51
Kinetin	2.0	73.3	5.4±0.52	2.7±0.17
BAP+ NAA	3.0+0.1	93.3	8.5±0.52	3.6±0.38
BAP+IAA	2+0.1	86.6	6.8±0.18	4.37±0.45
Kinetin+NAA	3.0+0.1	90	7.2±0.23	4.3±0.23
Kinetin+IAA	2.0+0.1	60	6.2±0.51	4.1±0.41

3.2.2.2 Effects of Different Concentrations of Cytokinins on Shoot multiplication

Effects of BAP and Kinetin variable concentrations on nodal segment - Nodal segments were used for shoot multiplication by diverse BAP and Kinetin (0.5, 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 mg/l) concentrations. The outcomes of 45 days of culture are presented in S-4. MS media added with 2.0mg/l BAP had the best growth response (93.3%), including an average number of shoots per explant of 7.1 and an average size of shoots of 4.2 cm long. Instead, culture was reacted about 86.6% in a medium containing 2.0 mg/l Kinetin, along with the highest average shoots number (5.4) per explant and the average size of the shoots (3.2 cm) (Fig 2C, and 2H).

Effects of various BAP and Kinetin concentrations - The medium including 0.5 mg/l BAP +1.0 mg/l Kinetin had the highest percentage of culture responses (86.6%) of the three BAP+ Kinetin combinations (0.5+1.0, 1.0+0.5, and 1.0+1.5). In a medium having 1.0mg/l BAP+1.5 mg/l Kinetin, however, the lowest (60%) percentage of culture was responded to. Every combination resulted in many shoots. S-4 presents the results.

Effects of Cytokinins with auxin on induction of multiple shoot - In the present study, various concentrations of BAP (1.0, 2.0, 3.0 mg/l) and Kinetin (1.0, 2.0, 3.0 mg/l) were combined with varied concentrations of NAA (0.1 and 0.5 mg/l) and IAA (0.1 and 0.5 mg/l) to investigate shoot development (Fig 2C-

2D) (S-5). With varied concentrations and mixtures of BAP and NAA, the explants cultured in a medium having 3.0 mg/l BAP + 0.1 mg/l NAA responded with the highest percentage (93.3%) of culture. Furthermore, when the explants were grown in a medium including 2.0 mg/l BAP + 0.1 mg/l IAA, the largest proportion (86.6 percent) of culture responded. (See Table 4) (Fig 4A). Additionally, the medium added with two compositions, 1.0 mg/l Kinetin + 0.5 mg/l NAA and 3.0 mg/l Kinetin + 0.1 mg/l NAA, had the highest percentage of culture response (90%). However, in a

medium containing 3.0 mg/l Kinetin + 0.1 mg/l NAA, the maximum average shoots count per explant was 7.2, and the maximum average size of the shoot was 4.3 cm. Furthermore, the medium added with 2.0 mg/l Kinetin+ 0.1 mg/l IAA (Table 4) yielded the highest percentage of culture response (80%) (Fig 2D, 4B) (S-5). From the overall experiments, it is observed that BAP is the best active hormone for multiple shoot initiation and growth in *V. negundo* and the suitable concentration was 2.0 mg/l BAP.

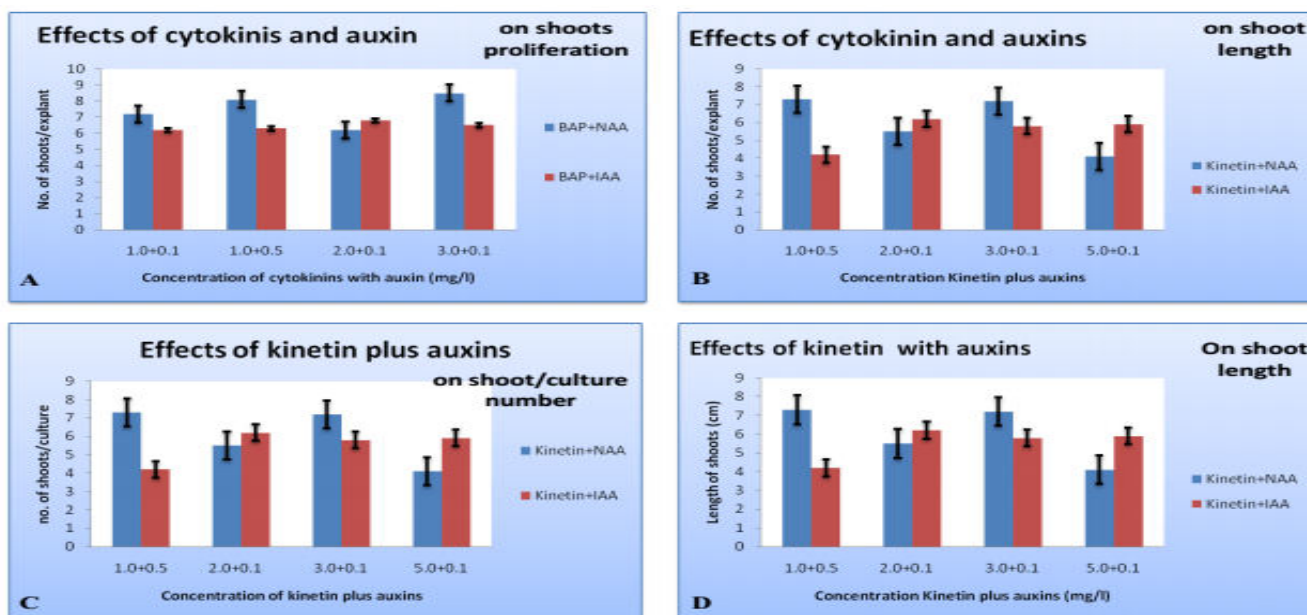


Fig 4: Effect of cytokinin with auxin for *in-vitro* *V. negundo* L. regeneration from the nodal segment. (A) Effects of different combinations of cytokinin with auxin (IAA and NAA) on the proliferation of shoots; (B) Effects of different combinations of cytokinin with auxin (IAA and NAA) on shoot length; (C) Effects of cytokinin with auxins (IAA and NAA) on the shoot culture; (D) Effects of cytokinin with auxins (IAA and NAA) on the length of the shoot in *V. negundo* L.

Table 5: Effects of diverse concentrations and mixtures of 2,4-D with BAP on multiple shoot proliferation of *V. negundo* L.

Growth regulator		No. of explants inoculated	% of explants producing the shoot	Shoot number (Average)/explant	Length of the shoot (cm) (Average)
Pre-culture	Sub-culture				
BAP	BAP+2,4-D				
2.0	2.0+0.5	8	62.5	5.21±0.53	3.65±0.62
	2.0+1.0	8	62.5	4.6±0.66	4.0±0.74
3.0	3.0+0.5	8	75	6.1±0.67	4.0±0.84
	3.0+1.0	8	87.5	5.34±0.71	3.9±0.72
BAP	BAP				
2.0	2.0	8	75	6.22±0.94	4.1±0.31
	3.0	8	87.5	6.09±0.74	4.2±0.24
3.0	2.0	8	62.5	5.66±0.41	4.1±0.56
	3.0	8	87.5	6.82±0.41	4.3±0.77

3.2.3. Root induction - For root stimulation from micro-cutting of *in vitro* proliferate shoots of *V. negundo*, several concentrations of NAA (0.1, 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/l) and IBA (0.1, 0.5, 1 and 2 mg/l) in MS medium including half-strength and MS₀ media were used (Table 6). MS₀ medium was employed for root initiation in this experiment. Induction of root is relatively low in such medium. In diverse NAA and IBA concentrations containing media ranging from 0.1 to

2.0 mg/l, about 93.3% of shoots promote rooting. In a medium involving 0.5 mg/l NAA, the best response of root stimulation in each culture was detected. In a medium including 1.0 mg/l NAA, the root's average length was the longest. In IBA, nearly identical results were observed. The best number of root/culture average was found 13 in a medium with 0.5 mg/l IBA, while the longest average size of the root was 2.0 cm in a medium with 1.0-2.0 mg/l IBA (Table 6, Fig 2E).

Table 6: Effects of various NAA and IBA concentrations in 1/2-strength of the MS medium for rooting of the extended microshoots of *V. negundo*

Treatment(mg/l)	Explants number (inoculated)	% of explants producing the shoot	Days to root responded	Root number (Average) /culture	The average length of the root (cm)	
MS 0	15	53.3	15	5.6±0.75	1.7±0.72	
NAA+1/2MS	0.1	15	80	10	10.53±1.1	1.9±0.86
	0.5	15	87.5	9	13.5±1.23	2.0±0.71
	1.0	15	80	12	12.8±0.98	2.2±0.94
	2.0	15	73.3	14	7.89±0.23	1.9±0.61
IBA+1/2MS	0.1	15	80	14	12.43±0.67	1.6±0.49
	0.5	15	66.6	16	5.42±0.79	1.4±0.88
	1.0	15	93.3	16	14.7±0.23	2.0±0.61
	2.0	15	66.6	13	9.1±0.49	2.0±19

3.2.4. Establishment of regenerated plantlets to field environments - After sufficient root development, the rooted shoots were planted in small poly stacks comprising garden soil, sand, and compost in a 1:1:1 ratio. To maintain the bags moistly, they were covered by plastic film and progressively acclimatized to outdoor conditions. Plantlets resulting from a variation of *in vitro* cultures were successfully transplanted into the soil. In open-air soil pots, about 92% of plants survived (Fig 2F).

4. DISCUSSION:

For the vast majority of the world's inhabitants, medicinal plants constitute a crucial source of life-saving medications. There are quite high opportunities for the production of plant-based medicine from *in vitro* regenerated medicinal plants (Radha *et al.*, 2011). This may be accomplished using a wide range of techniques, including micropropagation. In the field of forestry and floriculture, micropropagation is commonly employed. Plant species that are endangered or unusual can also benefit from micropropagation. Tween 20 and 0.1% mercuric chloride (HgCl₂) solution were utilized as surface sterilizing agents for

various periods in the current research, surface sterilization using HgCl₂ has come to light in several studies (Borthakur *et al.*, 2000; Minakshi and Singh, 2017). Treatment of *V. negundo* explants with 0.1 % HgCl₂ solution for 8 minutes resulted in contamination-free culture with excellent survival, following the findings. The majority of authors reported that many medicinal plants were highly responded in the MS medium, e.g. *Calotropis gigaritea* (Roy and De, 1990), *Asclepias curassavica* (Pramanik and Datta, 1986), *Solanum torvum* (Jaiswal and Narayan, 1985), *Rauvolfia serpentina* (Roy *et al.*, 1994), *Cephaelis pecacuanha* (Jha and Jha, 1989), *Adhatoda vasica* (Raageeva and Shahnawaz, 2011), *Azadirachta indica* (Homen *et al.*, 2017), and so many as well as other medicinal herbs. 2 mg/l BAP was combined with 0.5 mg/l NAA in this report, which is appropriate for the nodal segment and shoot tip culture from a field-grown plant. The best result was 2 mg/l BAP. When a medium containing 2 mg/l BAP was used, the largest amount of shoots per explant on average was observed from both nodal segments and shoot tips. In *Chrysanthemum*, (Waseem *et al.*, 2011 and Yesmin *et al.*, 2014) achieved a more or less identical result. Kiran

and Trevor, (1990) found that BAP (2.0 mg/l) had a better impact on shoot multiplication. 2.2 mg/l BAP was discovered to be the most efficient concentration for shoot tip culture in pear plants (Lane *et al.*, 1979). While the basal MS media, BAP @2.5mg/l, and NAA @0.5mg/l demonstrated the top response to regeneration via callus induction, with a typical of 5.1 shoot buds per culture in 4-5 weeks (Suvalaxmi *et al.*, 2017).

The highest percentages of shoot propagation were achieved in mediums added with 9.0 M BAP and 0.5 M indole-3-acetic acid in shoot-tip cultures of *Pyrus elaeagrifolia* Pallas, an vital gene source for chlorosis resistance and drought in pear rootstock breeding (Ahmed and Hatice, 2015). The utilization of three auxins, when combined with BAP in rose genotypes, revealed that NAA was more successful than IAA or IBA in producing multiple shoots (Pati *et al.*, 2006). Experiments were also conducted to standardize cultured *in vitro* procedures for widespread dissemination of *Woodfordia fruticosa*, with explants cultivated on MS medium with the addition of 2, 4- D (1.0 mg/l) and BAP (0.5 mg/l) producing better results. Excellent results were also obtained using BAP-containing MS media or NAA (1.0 mg/l) (Vimla Meena and Satish Kumar, 2017). The impact of BAP with NAA on the proliferation of shoots from explants like shoot tips and nodal segments was investigated in this experiment. The medium with 3.0 mg/l BAP + 0.1 mg/l NAA yielded the meanest explants with a certain number of shoots.

Borchetia *et al.* (2009) discovered that combining BAP and IAA produced the most shoots. In this instance, the most effective composition is 3.0 mg/l BAP + 0.1 mg/l IAA in MS (medium) for shoot proliferation from shoot tips in addition to nodal segment explants. In this combination, nodal segments produced the largest average total number of shoots, rather than shoot tips. In this research, shoot tips were found to have a larger shooting frequency multiplication than nodal segments in *V. negundo*. When nodal segments and shoot tips were cultured on MS medium that contains BAP and Kinetin in various compositions, here BAP was discovered to superior to Kinetin relating to shoot multiplication. Because of differences in genotypes and explant, various authors may have come up with different conclusions. Nodal segments and shoot tips

were rooted and grown into complete plantlets. Root and shoot development derived from shoots are particularly critical for tissue culture-derived shoot establishment (Sayeed *et al.*, 2015).

To find the optimal root induction strategy, many tests had been completed using a half-strength MS medium added with different amounts of nutrients, such as auxins (NAA, IBA). Farhana *et al.* (2008) unclosed that the medium with 1.0 mg/l IBA produced the most roots. However, Jawahar *et al.* (2008) investigated that the regenerated shoots were discovered to be effective when rooted on MS media added with 0.5 mg/l IBA to induce root from *in vitro* grown shoots of *V. negundo*. Half-strength MS medium added with 0.5 mg/l IBA was used to grow rooting shoots (Stephen *et al.*, 2010). Nevertheless, in this inquiry IBA was used alone for rooting, it surpassed other auxins (NAA). In both half-strength, MS mediums with 1.0 mg/l IBA, the optimal concentration for root development and proliferation was obtained. Dhir *et al.* (1998) also utilized the same strategy for acclimatization as this investigation. *In vitro* clonal cultivation, germplasm collection, and dissemination also may assist *V. negundo*, for further research. The new study indicated that acclimatized plants survived at a rate of 92%, which is greater than the previous result (Jawahar *et al.*, 2008).

5. CONCLUSION:

This work generated an *in vitro* protocol for the proliferation of shoots, root induction, and effective adaptation of the medicinal herb *V. negundo* L. For greater frequency shoot multiplication, HgCl₂ was utilized to surface sterilize the explants. After treatment in 0.1% HgCl₂ for 8 minutes, over 90% of explants were found to be free of surface contaminants with minimal tissue injury. To investigate clonal propagative effectiveness, explants were cultivated on MS medium treated with various concentrations and mixtures of cytokines, auxin, and 2,4-D, auxin. The greatest response was seen with *V. nigundo* at 2.0 mg/l BAP. Moreover, regenerated shoot tips are induced to root in half-strength MS media supplemented with various doses of NAA and IAA for rooting. A half MS with 2.0 mg/l IAA yielded enough healthy roots. When the seedlings were transplanted to the soil, more than 92% of them had effectively acclimatized. This method could be used for both commercial plantlet bulk propagation,

germplasm preservation, and distribution. Optimization might be taken in the future procedure for greater outcomes.

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7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

The authors declared there is no conflict of interest.

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SUPPLEMENTARY FILES

S-1: Effect of HgCl₂ (0.1%) on surface sterilization of explants (nodal segment and shoot tip) of *V. negundo*.

Treatment period (min)	Total no. of culture	Rate of contamination (%)		Degree of tissue killing	Explants survived (%)
		After 5 days	After 15 days		
4	15-20	40	42	-	35
5	15-20	NC	28	+	60
6	15-20	NC	10	+	75
7	15-20	NC	NC	+	89
8	15-20	NC	NC	+	95
9	15-20	NC	NC	++	30
10	15-20	NC	NC	+++	25

***NC = No contamination, - = No tissue killing, + = Partial tissue killing, ++ = Moderate tissue killing, +++ = Massive tissue killing

S-2: Effects of diverse concentrations of BAP and Kinetin on MS medium for shoot propagation from shoot tip, and BAP+Kinetin treatment for shoot propagation and elongation.

Treatment(mg/l)	Number of explants inoculated	% of explants producing shoot	Average no. of the shoot/explant	The average length of the shoot (cm)	
MS 0 (Control)	15	33.3	3.2±0.46	1.7±0.19	
BAP	0.5	15	46.6	4.2±0.51	2.58±0.15
	1.0	15	80	5.5±0.61	4.4±0.49
	2.0	15	93.3	8.3±1.14	4.5±0.48
	3.0	15	53.3	7.2±0.65	3.2±0.42
Kinetin	0.5	15	33.3	3.2±0.29	1.7±0.19
	1.0	15	46.6	3.3±0.41	1.7±0.19
	2.0	15	73.3	5.8±0.42	3.2±0.31
	3.0	15	66.6	5.5±0.61	2.5±0.15
BAP+Kinetin	0.5+1.0	15	80	5.3±1.63	3.2±0.42
	1.0+0.5	15	53.3	3.67±0.32	2.9±0.54
	1.0+1.5	15	73.3	4.2±0.51	2.2±0.65

S-3: Various concentrations of BAP and Kinetin effectin MS medium by the combination with NAA and IAA for shoot regeneration from shoot tip.

Treatment(mg/l)	Number of explants inoculated	% of explants producing the shoot	Average no. of the shoot/explant	The average length of the shoot (cm)	
BAP+NAA	1.0+0.1	15	66.6	7.2±0.58	2.23±0.57
	1.0+0.5	15	46.6	7.2±0.65	2.78±0.19
	2.0+0.1	15	60	6.2±0.50	3.2±0.46
	3.0+0.1	15	93.3	7.6±0.79	3.9±0.32
BAP+IAA	1+0.1	15	60	5.4±0.52	2.29±0.38
	1.0+0.5	15	66.6	5.1±0.65	3.67±0.32
	2+0.1	15	86.6	6.0±0.61	4.2±0.51
	3.0+0.1	15	80	5.1±0.65	3.6±0.38
Kinetin+NAA	1.0+0.5	15	66.6	3.5±0.35	1.62±0.27
	2.0+0.1	15	53.3	4.9±0.28	1.50±0.49

	3.0+0.1	15	87	5.8±0.66	1.94±0.46
	5.0+0.1	15	80	3.67±0.32	1.12±0.17
Kinetin+IAA	1+0.5	15	53.3	3.6±0.44	1.56±0.18
	2+0.1	15	60	4.9±0.38	1.30±0.25
	3.0+0.1	15	86.6	5.5±0.41	1.8±0.41
	5.0+0.1	15	80	5.1±0.65	0.71±0.14

S-4: Effects of different concentrations of BAP and Kinetin on MS medium for shoot multiplication from the nodal segment, and BAP+Kinetin treatment for shoot proliferation and elongation.

Treatment(mg/l)	Number of explants inoculated	% of explants producing the shoot	Average no. of the shoot/explant	The average length of the shoot (cm)	
MS 0 (Control)	15	33.3	3.2±0.31	1.8±0.41	
BAP	0.5	15	60	6.8±0.75	2.7±0.51
	1.0	15	86.6	6.76±0.79	3.3±0.41
	2.0	15	93.3	7.1±0.68	4.2±0.51
	3.0	15	80	5.1±0.65	3.67±0.32
Kinetin	0.5	15	33.3	5.4±0.50	2.23±0.57
	1.0	15	66.6	5.1±0.65	2.4±0.32
	2.0	15	86.6	5.4±0.52	2.7±0.17
	3.0	15	53.3	4.5±0.48	3.2±0.46
BAP+Kinetin	0.5+1.0	15	86.6	5.4±0.61	3.9±0.65
	1.0+0.5	15	66.6	4.9±0.28	2.68±0.34
	1.0+1.5	15	60	3.6±0.38	2.7±0.41

S-5: Effects of different concentrations of BAP and Kinetin in combination with NAA and IAA in the nodal segment of *V. negundo* L.

Treatment(mg/l)	Number of explants inoculated	% of explants producing the shoot	Average no. of the shoot/explant	The average length of the shoot(cm)	
BAP+NAA	1.0+0.1	15	73.3	7.2±0.41	3.1±0.38
	1.0+0.5	15	86.6	8.1±0.71	3.7±0.52
	2.0+0.1	15	46.6	6.2±0.50	2.23±0.51
	3.0+0.1	15	93.3	8.5±0.52	3.6±0.38
BAP+IAA	1+0.1	15	80	6.2±0.61	3.2±0.46
	1.0+0.5	15	73.3	6.3±0.71	4.1±0.49
	2+0.1	15	86.6	6.8±0.18	4.37±0.45
	3.0+0.1	15	46.6	6.5±0.73	2.37±0.45
Kinetin+NAA	1.0+0.5	15	86.6	7.3±0.41	3.3±0.42
	2.0+0.1	15	46.6	5.5±0.61	0.42±0.22
	3.0+0.1	15	86.6	7.2±0.23	4.3±0.23
	5.0+0.1	15	66.6	4.1±0.44	3.9±0.65
Kinetin+IAA	1.0+0.5	15	60	4.2±0.51	2.5±0.35
	2.0+0.1	15	80	6.2±0.50	4.1 ± 0.43
	3.0+0.1	15	66.6	5.8±0.53	3.9±0.65
	5.0+0.1	15	53.3	5.9±0.88	3.6±0.40

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