

LAB LESSON PLAN
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Summer Science Institute For Agriculture Teachers
University of California, Davis

LAB TITLE Plant Development: Leaf disc method **PRESENTER:** Dave Burger

Ag Model Curriculum Standard(s), Learning Outcome(s) & Biological Standard(s)

Addressed: Basic Core Standard: Plant Science 3A: Biological Science Standards 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17.

Objective: Upon completion of the lab, students should: 1) understand the factors necessary to sustain plant life, 2) describe the role of plant growth hormones in the growth and development of plants, 3) understand the interrelationships among cells, tissues, organs, and systems, 4) appreciate the importance of technological advances in the field of agriculture.

Tools, Equipment & Materials (as necessary): Basic tissue culture lab equipment (see following), petunia leaves, growth regulators.

References: See attached references

Procedures (activities) 1) Disinfection and explanting petunia leaf discs, 2) Observation of adventitious shoot formation, 3) Discussion of applications to crop improvement through genetic transformation.

Method(s) of Evaluation Lab write-ups

FACILITIES NEEDED FOR PLANT TISSUE CULTURE

Equipment

1. Autoclave
2. Laminar flow hood
3. Distilled or deionized water
4. Culture space
light-dark, room temperature, cool-white, fluorescent lamps, 1000 lux (good reading light)
5. pH meter
6. Stereo microscope
7. Balance
8. Culture vessels
test tubes, scintillation vials, Mason jars, Magenta boxes

Substitution

- Pressure cooker, 15 minutes at 212°F
- squirrel fan, enclosure, respiration filters, UV lamps
- Culligan

Suppliers

1. Carolina Biological
Box 187
Gladstone, Oregon 97027
800-547-1733
2. Grand Island Biological Co. (GIBCO)
519 Aldo Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050
408-988-7611
3. Flow Laboratories
936 W. Hyde Park Blvd.
Inglewood, CA 90302
213-674-2700

GENERAL METHODS

FOR PLANT TISSUE CULTURE

1. Select and collect tissue.
 - leaves
 - nodes containing axillary bud(s)
 - shoot-tips
 - apical meristems
 - flower stalks
 - other tissues

The following work is performed in a laminar flow hood or equivalent equipped with alcohol lamp, dissecting instruments (scalpel, forceps, etc.), and 95% ethyl alcohol (ethanol).

2. Treat tissue in disinfectants (10% Clorox, 70% ethyl alcohol, or hydrogen peroxide). Treatment time varies, but is usually 10-20 minutes. Treat for shorter periods of time or with lower concentrations of disinfectant if tissue is sensitive to the disinfectant used.
3. Wash disinfectant off with repeated washes of autoclaved water (at least 3 washes).
4. Make explants (tissue removed from plant and put into culture) from disinfested tissue. Cut away any tissue damaged by the disinfectant.
5. Place explants on culture media of choice. Culture media variables:
 - a. hormone concentrations auxin - cell enlargement, root formation
 cytokinin - cell division, shoot formation
 - b. sugar source - sucrose (table sugar), fructose, glucose
 - c. salts - various concentrations or substitutions
6. Place culture vessels under lights or in the dark depending on the plant's requirements.