

Shoot Culture of *Ocimum* sp and Its Phytochemical profile

Abstract.

The success of the in vitro culture technique is influenced by many factors, including the type of explants, basic medium and exogenous plant growth regulators (PGR). These factors greatly influence the speed and effectiveness of plant regeneration as well as the quantity and quality of the phytochemical compounds produced. Therefore, this study aims to determine the effect of the PGR combination on the growth response of in vitro nodal explants as well as the phytochemical profiles of *Ocimum* sp. Nodal explants obtained from 2 weeks old in vitro seedlings were cultured on MS medium with the addition of ZPT, namely BAP and Kinetin (0.2 and 5 mg/l) combined with NAA (0.1 and 0.2 mg/l) and synthetic cytokinins namely Thidiazuron (TDZ) (1, 3, and 5 mg/l). The growth response of the explants and the potential for regeneration were observed for 8 weeks of culture. Effect of adding activated charcoal (AC) to root media on growth of plantlets aged 2 weeks. Phytochemical profile of in vitro shoot was analyzed using GCMS and LCMS to be compared with its profile in in vitro callus tissue. The results showed that MS medium with the addition of a combination of cytokinin and auxin was able to induce shoot regeneration in nodal explants of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro. The Kinetin/NAA combination produced better shoot height growth, while the BAP/NAA combination produced a higher leaves number. Thidiazuron at all concentrations was able to induce shoots that were more likely to form rosettes. The addition of AC to the rooting medium did not have a positive effect on the response of shoot and plantlet growth. Chromatographic screening showed different profiles of secondary compounds in the callus and shoot tissues of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro. Callus composed of actively dividing cells do not produce some of the secondary compounds produced in vitro shoots. This shows the difference in the potential of cells or tissues in synthesizing secondary metabolites.

Key word: Tissues, Phytochemical profile, cytokinin, GCMS ,LCMS, growth response

1. Introduction

Basil is a medicinal plant that is a member of the Lamiaceae family, which has more than 150 species (Dzoyem et al., 2017). Basil plants or *Ocimum* species as a member of Lamiaceae family are aromatic or ornamental plants which contain many essential oils and various secondary metabolites such as anthocyanins, flavonoids, and rosmarinic acid (Uritu et al., 2018). For pharmaceutical purposes, the utilization of Lamiaceae species has major constraints, namely variations at the individual level caused by heterogeneous genetics and biochemistry since hybridization and polyploidy between species occur frequently in this genus (Harley & Heywood, 1992). In addition, propagation by seed has problems due to poor viability and low germination frequency. In vitro culture technique is an alternative method to be able to produce offspring that are true-to-type and could improve secondary metabolite products. In vitro systems have been widely implemented in the medicinal plants micropropagation. The production of secondary metabolites which naturally depend on the growth phase of plants and only in small amounts makes tissue culture techniques an alternative solution to these problems.

In vitro micropropagation is an effective and relatively fast way of propagation of species that require high progeny uniformity. Plant cell, tissue and organ culture technology has been proven to be an alternative for all plant systems in producing natural products. Therefore, large-scale propagation of aromatic and medicinal plants using in vitro techniques is gaining increasing interest (Grigoriadou et al., 2019; Hasnain et al., 2022). The success of the in vitro culture technique is influenced by many factors, such as the type of explants, basic medium and exogenous growth regulators (PGR). These factors greatly influence the speed and effectiveness of plant regeneration and the phytochemical compounds produced both quantitatively and qualitatively. In vitro studies in the genus *Ocimum* have been reported using a variety of explants, such as cotyledonary nodes and the first true leaves and

hypocotyls and cotyledons (Barberini et al., 2023; Gaddaguti et al., 2015; Navet & Tian, 2020), and shoot bud (Shukla et al., 2021). In vitro system can produce different profiles of secondary metabolites when compared to the original plant (Miguel, 2018). Therefore, the goal of this study is to determine the combination of growth regulators effect on the shoot induction of *Ocimum* sp. nodal explants in vitro and its phytochemical profiles.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Seed germination and explants preparation

Basil seeds (*Ocimum* sp.) were washed with running tap water for 1 hour and sterilized with 10% commercial bleach solution for 15 min. Subsequently, seeds were rinsed with sterile distilled water for 5 minutes three times. The sterilized seeds were germinated in water medium solidified with agar without the addition of either macro and micronutrients or PGR. Two weeks old seedling derived from seed germination were ready to be used as a source of explants.

2.2. Shoot induction media

Murashige and Skoog (MS) basal salt medium were used supplemented with 3% sucrose and solidified with 1.1 % (w/v) agar. The pH was adjusted to 5.8 by adding NaOH or HCl 0.1 N prior to sterilization using autoclave at 121 °C, 1.5 atm for 15 minutes. A combination of cytokinins (BAP/kinetin 2 and 5 mg/l) and auxin NAA (0, 0.1 and 0.2 mg/l) as well as a single thidiazuron in several concentrations (1, 3, and 5 mg/l) was added to observe their effect on regeneration and multiplication of shoot. All treatments consisted of six combinations of BAP-NAA and 3 concentrations of single thidiazuron.

2.3 Shoot regeneration and multiplication

The first nodes of seedling were used as explants and placed vertically on shoot induction medium. Each of nine PGR treatment were repeated in six bottles and each bottle contained two explants. All cultures were kept in incubation room under continuous illumination from fluorescent white light (light intensity about 600 lux) at 24±2°C, with relative humidity of 60-65%. The leaves number were counted, and shoot height were measured every week for four weeks.

2.4 In vitro rooting

Single shoots were separated from the shoots clumps and then transferred to the rooting medium (MS medium without hormones) with or without the addition of 0.1% (w/v) AC (activated charcoal). Shoot and root development was observed two weeks after subculture.

2.5 Phytochemical analysis using GCMS and LCMS

Phytochemical analysis using GC-MS and LC-MS based on (Hassan et al., 2022) with modification. Phytochemical screening and identification of phytochemical compounds were carried out on in vitro shoots and callus of *Ocimum*. Shoot samples were derived from MS hormone free medium while callus tissues were derived from MS + 2,4-D 1 mg/l + BAP 0.5 mg/l. The screening stage includes sample extraction using 95% methanol with a ratio of 1:5, followed by dilution of the extract with 95% methanol solvent to a concentration below 100 ppm. After being homogenized with a vortex and centrifuged at 8000 rpm for 10 minutes the resulting supernatant was used for the protein precipitation and purification stages with Solid Phase Extraction (SPE). The purified solution was then filtered with a 0.45 µm cellulose acetate filter membrane and the solution was ready to be analyzed by LC-MS. The Shimadzu LCMS – 8040 LCMS was used for this study. The filtration was carried out using polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) membrane filter (0.45 µm size). One microliter (1 µL) of the filtrate was introduced (injected) into the liquid chromatographical system. This was separated on Shimadzu Shim Pack FC-ODS (2 mm x 150 mm, 3 µm) column. Running was undertaken at a flow

rate of 0.5 mL/min. The column temperature was fixed at 35°C with isocratic mobile phase mode. Scan range from 0,6 sec/scan (mz : 10-1000) was used to acquire mass spectra.

The GC system (Shimadzu GCMS QP 2010 SE) with ZB – AAA (10 mL x 0,25 mmLD (Phenomenex Inc) capillary column was used for this study. Helium (99.99%) gas was used to maintain flow rate of 0.6 mL/min at a constant column. GC-MS spectral lines was detected using the ionization energy method, in a 0.2 second scan time with a ranging fragment from 40 to 600 m/z , with one microliter (1 μ L) injection quantity (split ratio 10:1). The temperature was maintained at 250°C. The column oven temperature was at 50°C running for 3 minutes and 10°C temperature increase per minutes up to 280°C, with a final temperature of about 300°C for 10 minutes. The compound profiles including peak number, RT (retention time) per minute, curve area, composition and the structure and analysis were compared with the standard library of phenolic compounds.

2.6 Data analysis

Quantitative data on shoot and root growth were analyzed using the One way-ANOVA method and Tukey's test as a follow-up on MS Excel 365 with a significance value of $p < 0.05$ while descriptive growth data were analyzed using relevant references. Phytochemical profiles were analyzed descriptively based on the types of compounds and their appearance on the chromatogram.

3. Results and Discussion

2.7 Shoot induction

The node explants showed a positive response in shoot induction on all media with various combinations of cytokinin:auxin. In general, shoot induction begins with the emergence of lateral shoots in the leaf axils 3-7 days after (Figure 1A). Furthermore, adventitious shoots emerge from the node tissue in varying numbers (Figure 1B). After four weeks of culture, every combination of cytokinin:auxin showed different effect on shoot growth (Figure 2). In general, the kinetin/NAA combination produced higher shoots ((0.30 – 2.14 cm) than those produced by the BAP/NAA combination (0.03 – 0.55 cm). On the other hand, the kinetin/NAA combination produced fewer leaves (1.27 – 9.07) than those produced by the BAP/NAA combination (2.93 – 17.87). According to (Yang et al., 2017) auxin and cytokinins are needed synergistically to control shoot growth. High leaf number was produced in the medium with the addition of 2 or 5 mg/l BAP combined with 0.1 mg/l NAA.

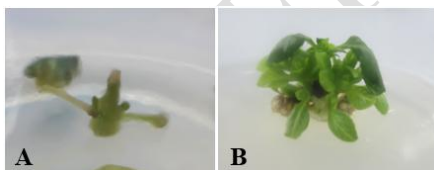


Figure 1. Development of nodal explants and shoot regeneration. A. lateral shoots in the leaf axils, B. Multiple shoots derived from nodal tissues.

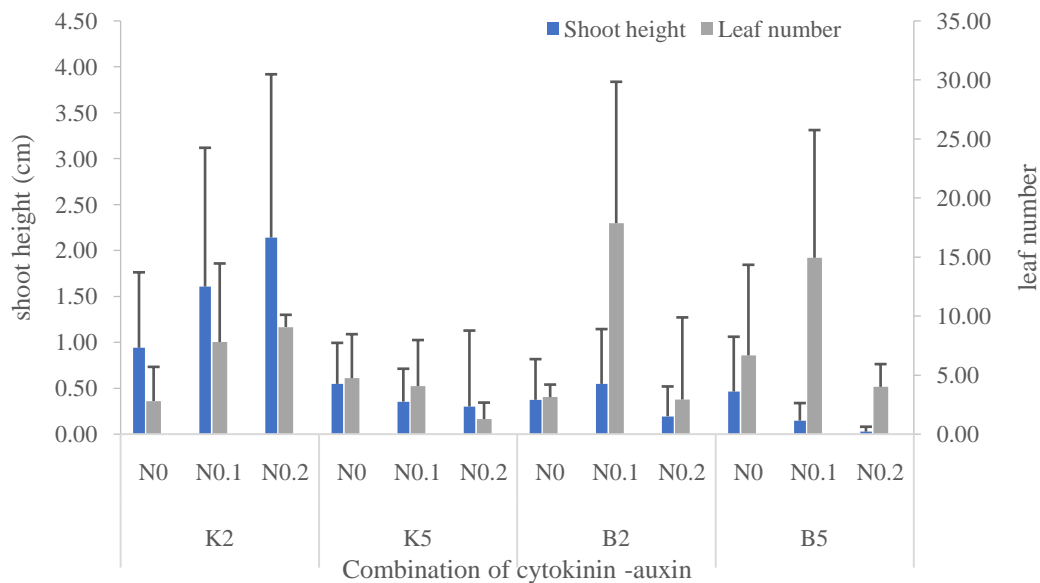


Figure 2. Shoot regeneration derived from nodal explants of *Ocimum* sp. four weeks after culture. Notes: B: BAP; K: Kinetin, N: NAA

The concentration of thidiazuron tested was able to produce leaves but the number was less than the use of BAP or kinetin. Four weeks after culture the number of leaves produced at all TDZ concentrations tended to be the same between 10.7 to 14.4 (Figure 3). Shoots derived from Thidiazuron treatment were generally clustered to form a rosette (Figure 4A). Shoot height on medium with the addition of thidiazuron could not be measured properly when compared to shoots produced on media with the addition of a combination of cytokinins and auxin (Figure 4B). Thidiazuron also showed poor response in shoot formation of *O. sanctum* when compared with zeatin and BA (Manjudevi et al., 2022). However, thidiazuron could induce rapid micropropagation of *O. basilicum* using various types of explants except root (Enkhbileg et al., 2019). An efficient method for micropropagation of basil on MS medium supplemented with thidiazuron was established using epicotyl, hypocotyl and shoot tip explants cultured (Ekmekci & Aasim, 2014).

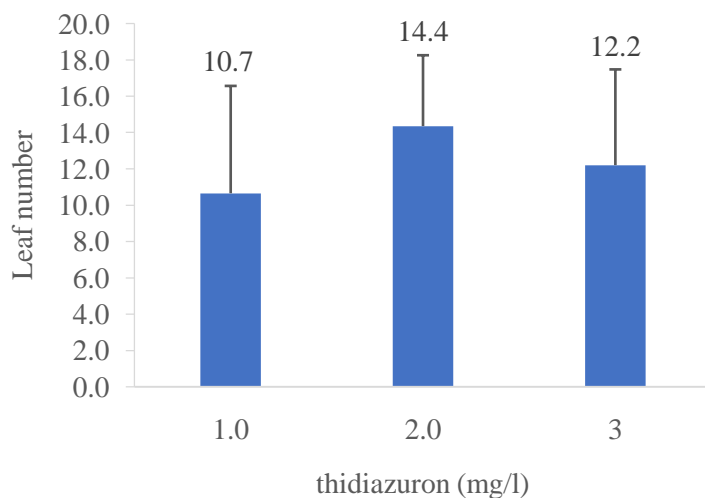


Figure 3. The leaf number of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro in media containing thidiazuron

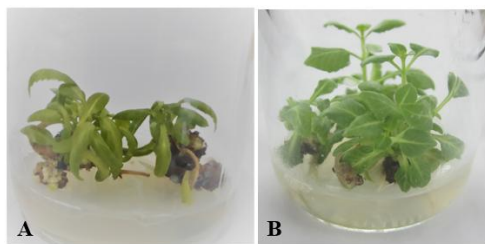


Figure 4. Shoot growth of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro. A. MS medium + TDZ alone, B. MS medium + combined cytokinin-auxin

Root Induction

Four weeks after culture the regenerated shoot was able to form roots without subculture to rooting medium. The quality and quantity of roots formed on shooting medium were varied. In general, medium supplemented with BAP and NAA showed poor responses in root formation (Figure 5). Meanwhile the combination of Kinetin and NAA appears to be most suitable for producing large quantities of roots. This is contrary to the effect of the combination of these growth regulators on shoot height (Figure 2). The addition of kinetin alone produces more roots than the addition of BAP alone. Kinetin is a synthetic cytokinin which generally has a stronger effect than its natural compounds.

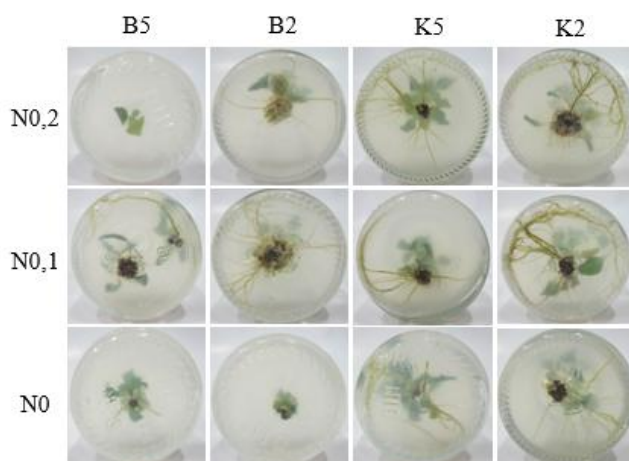


Figure 5. Rooting in shoot induction medium with various combinations of auxin-cytokinin (mg/l) (N = NAA, B = BAP, K= Kinetin)

In this study the addition of AC to the medium tends to reduce the growth of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro. Shoot and leaf number of in the medium without AC was always higher than in the medium with the AC (Figure 6). While the addition of AC slightly increased shoot height. In *Ocimum sanctum* micropropagation, the percentage of roots, roots number, and root length were positively affected by the addition of AC when compared to control media without AC (Shukla et al., 2021). According to (Ridhawati et al., 2018) the addition of activated charcoal in the culture medium resulted in 100% rooted explants of five *Agave* clones. In aromatic rice the callus induction and plant regeneration frequencies in tissue culture medium could be enhanced by adding optimum concentration of activated charcoal combined with nanocarbon (Chutipaijit & Sutjaritvorakul, 2018). This suggests that AC appears to affect nutrient absorption in the culture medium. However, in this study AC did not show a significant effect on the root's growth (Figure 7).

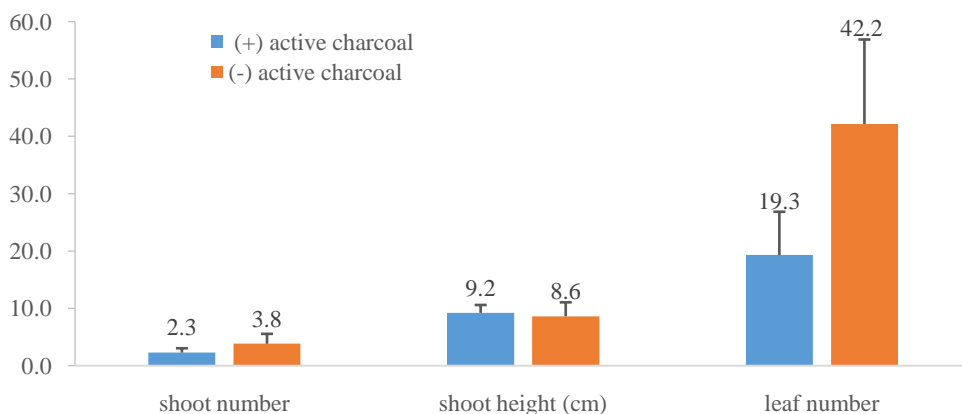


Figure 6. Effect of AC (activated charcoal) in hormone free MS medium on shoot growth of *Ocimum* sp.

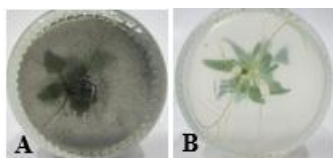


Figure 7. Root induction of *Ocimum* regenerated shoot in (A) dark medium containing and (B) in medium without the addition of AC.

Activated charcoal (AC) is a porous carbonized substance with a large inner surface area (Dong et al., 2020) therefore they can adsorb many substances (Lu & Xue, 2019). Although AC can adsorb unwanted substances/inhibitors (Buckseth et al., 2018) the addition of AC into tissue culture media is often associated with its role in increasing cell growth and development. The addition of AC simulated the dark condition in soil (Lee & Chang, 2022). Analysis of the main metabolic pathways in wheat seedling revealed that AC stimulates the expression of nine genes in the phenylpropanoid biosynthetic pathway that promote cell differentiation and seedling growth (Dong et al., 2020). However, AC addition did not show significant difference in *in vitro* root length of *Solanum sessiliflorum* (Rodrigues et al., 2017). Even the addition of AC to the culture media has an unfavorable effect, namely a drastic reduction in the concentration of PGR and other organic supplements. On AC-free media resulted in a higher number of regeneration of plantlet shoots than media with low AC concentrations, while the number of shoots would decrease if the media was added with high AC concentrations (Lee & Chang, 2022). It is possible that the addition of high concentrations of AC may induce nutrient deficiencies in culture media which related to high adsorption capacity and affected the explant growth (Lu & Xue, 2019).

2.8 Phytochemical profiles of *Ocimum* sp. *in vitro*

The results of phytochemical analysis of *Ocimum* sp. using GC-MS methods separated 78 volatile polar compounds with retention times ranging from 1.176 to 36.591 min (Figure 8A-B). Meanwhile, analysis using LCMS method detected 97 compounds with retention times ranging from 1.475 to 58.098 min (Figure 8C-D). The first peak was β -ocimene with molecular weight of 136.2380 (Figure 9a), while the last peak was ocimumoside B with molecular weight of 893.2060 (Figure 9b). The compound with the smallest curve area of 73.9199 was germacrene B (retention time 5.483 min) (Figure 9c) while the compound with the largest curve area of 1554.2209 was gallic acid (retention time 3.042 min) (Figure 9d).

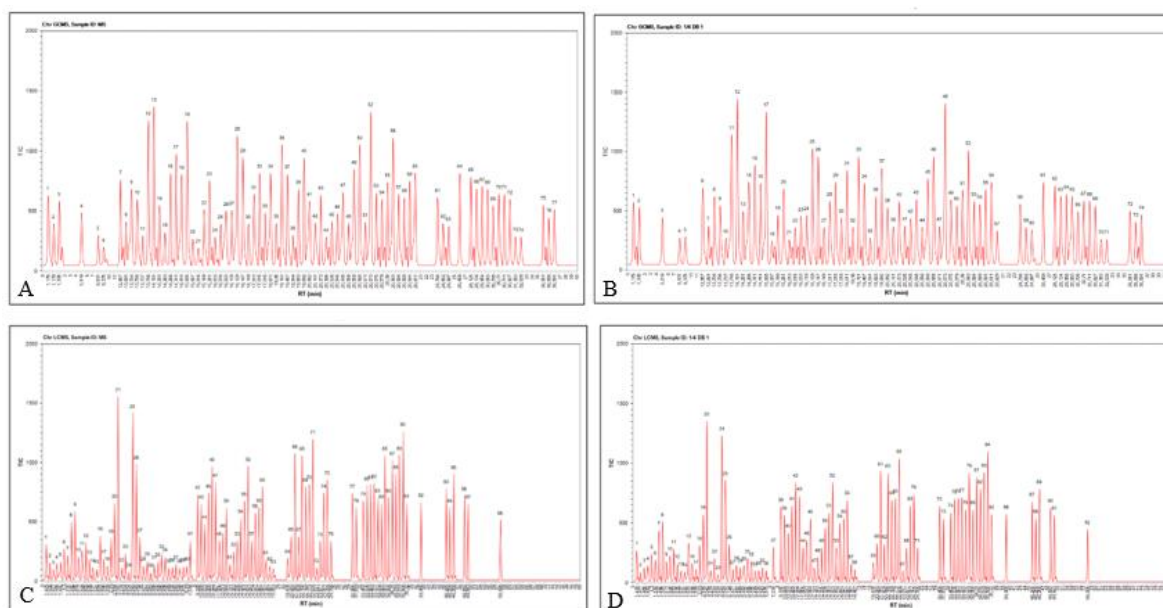


Figure 8. Chromatography profile of *Ocimum* sp. in vitro. A-B. GCMS analysis, B-C. LCMS analysis, A,C Shoot tissues, B,D callus tissues

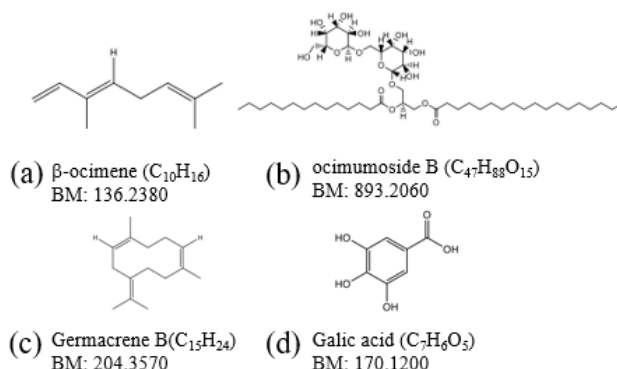


Figure 9. Phytochemical types in in vitro *Ocimum* sp. (a). the first retention time, (b). the last retention time, (c) the smallest curve area, (d) the largest curve area

The results of analysis using the GC-MS and LC-MS methods showed differences in the phytochemical profiles of *Ocimum* shoots and callus in vitro. There were 78 volatile non-polar compounds detected by GC-MS (Table 1). Seventy-three of these compounds were produced by both shoot and callus in vitro. However, there are four compounds produced by shoot but not detected in callus, namely 1,3-pentadiene (C_5H_8), p-menthadiene ($C_{10}H_{16}$), 4'-methoxyacetophenone ($C_9H_{10}O_2$), and α -calcorene ($C_{15}H_{20}$). In contrast, the longifolene compound ($C_{15}H_{24}$) only appeared in callus but not in shoot (Figure 10).

Table 1. Volatile non-polar compounds in shoot and callus in vitro of *Ocimum*

No	Compounds	Shoot	Callus	No	Compounds	Shoot	Callus
1	methyl formate	+	+	40	citronellyl formate	+	+
2	1,3-pentadiene **	+	-	41	geranyl acetate	+	+
3	methyl butyrate	+	+	42	lavandulyl acetate	+	+
4	1-octen-3-ol	+	+	43	citronellyl acetate	+	+
5	2-phenylethyl alcohol	+	+	44	α-calcorene **	+	-
6	p-cymene	+	+	45	(E,E)- α -farnesene	+	+

7	β -phellandrene	+	+	46	α -bourbonene	+	+
8	α -terpinolene	+	+	47	α -cadinene	+	+
9	α -pinene	+	+	48	α -cubebene	+	+
10	β -pinene	+	+	49	α -humulene	+	+
11	β -myrcene	+	+	50	α -muurolene	+	+
12	limonene	+	+	51	γ -muurolene	+	+
13	β -ocimene	+	+	52	α -ylangene	+	+
14	α -terpinene	+	+	53	germacrene A	+	+
15	p-menthadiene**	+	-	54	β -bisabolene	+	+
16	γ -terpinene	+	+	55	germacrene B	+	+
17	3-hexenyl acetate	+	+	56	germacrene D	+	+
18	(2R)-nonan-2-ol	+	+	57	β -caryophyllene	+	+
19	thymol	+	+	58	β -chamigrene	+	+
20	4'-ethylacetophenone	+	+	59	β -elemene	+	+
21	4'-methoxyacetophenone**	+	-	60	bicyclo-germacrene	+	+
22	dehydro-1,8-cineole	+	+	61	longifolene*	-	+
23	geranial	+	+	62	allo-aromadendrene	+	+
24	sabinene	+	+	63	β -selinene	+	+
25	1,4-cineole	+	+	64	γ -cadinene	+	+
26	cis-rose oxide	+	+	65	geranyl propionate	+	+
27	linalool	+	+	66	elemol	+	+
28	citronellal	+	+	67	farnesol	+	+
29	geraniol	+	+	68	α -copaene	+	+
30	isoborneol	+	+	69	spathulenol	+	+
31	citronellol	+	+	70	10-epi- γ -eudesmol	+	+
32	isomenthol	+	+	71	β -eudesmol	+	+
33	neoisomenthol	+	+	72	11-selina-4- α -ol	+	+
34	eugenol	+	+	73	nerolidol	+	+
35	safrole	+	+	74	T-cadinol	+	+
36	1-octen-3-yl acetate	+	+	75	selina-4,11-diene	+	+
37	methyleugenol	+	+	76	geranyl butyrate	+	+
38	coniferylalcohol	+	+	77	geranyl isobutyrate	+	+
39	geranyl formate	+	+	78	citronellyl butyrate	+	+

Note: '+' compounds are detected as peaks according to the retention time; '-' compounds are not detected as peaks according to the retention time; * compounds are only detected in callus; ** compounds are only detected in shoots

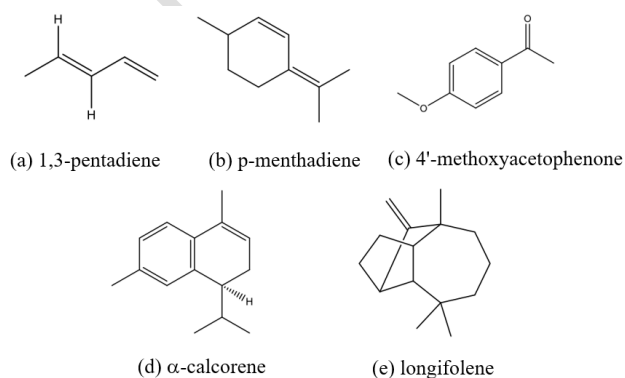


Figure 10. Specific volatile non-polar compounds detected in shoot and callus in vitro of *Ocimum* sp. (a-d). the compounds only detected in shoot, (e) the compound only detected in callus

The type of tissues affected the composition of the secondary compounds synthesized in *Ocimum* sp. cultured in medium MS + 0.25 mg/l 2,4-D + 1 mg/l BAP. Non-volatile compounds in *Ocimum* shoot tissue in vitro detected by HPLC were 97 compounds. However, only 92 compounds were detected in callus tissue (Table 2). Five compounds, namely α -terpinene ($C_{10}H_{16}$), germacrene B

(C₁₅H₂₄), ocimarin (C₁₂H₁₂O₄), nerolidol (C₁₅H₂₆O) and gardenin A (C₂₁H₂₂O₉) were not detected in callus culture (Figure 11).

Table 2. Nonvolatile compounds in shoot and callus in vitro of Ocimum

No	The compounds	Shoot	Callus	No	The compounds	Shoot	Callus
1	β-ocimene	+	+	50	thymoquinol 2-O-B-glucopyranoside	+	+
2	α-terpinene*	+	-	51	cirsillineol	+	+
3	α-pinene	+	+	52	eupatorin	+	+
4	limonene	+	+	53	nevadensin	+	+
5	α-terpinolene	+	+	54	gardenin B	+	+
6	β-myrcene	+	+	55	5,6,4'-trihydroxy-7,3'- dimethoxyflavone	+	+
7	β-phellandrene	+	+	56	chlorogenic acid	+	+
8	cinnamic acid	+	+	57	gardenin D	+	+
9	estragole	+	+	58	gardenin E	+	+
10	thymol	+	+	59	labiatic acid	+	+
11	1,8-cineole	+	+	60	thymonin	+	+
12	geraniol	+	+	61	squalene	+	+
13	borneol	+	+	62	gardenin C	+	+
14	linalool	+	+	63	gardenin A*	+	-
15	p-coumaryl alcohol	+	+	64	α-amyrin	+	+
16	citronellal	+	+	65	apigenin-7-O-glucoside	+	+
17	4-methoxycinnamaldehyde	+	+	66	cosmoslin	+	+
18	p-coumaric acid	+	+	67	kampferol-3-O-rhamnoside	+	+
19	safrole	+	+	68	acacetin-7-glucoside	+	+
20	eugenol	+	+	69	acacetin-7-galactoside	+	+
21	gallic acid	+	+	70	quercetin-3-O-rhamnoside	+	+
22	coniferaldehyde	+	+	71	luteolin-7-glucoside	+	+
23	methyleugenol	+	+	72	betullinic acid	+	+
24	coniferylalcohol	+	+	73	hirsutrin	+	+
25	caffeic acid	+	+	74	quercetin-3-glucoside	+	+
26	ferulic acid	+	+	75	chicoric acid	+	+
27	menthyl acetate	+	+	76	kampferol-3-(2"-acetyl)rhamnoside)	+	+
28	germacrene A	+	+	77	luteolin-7-O-(6"-malonyl)glucoside)	+	+
29	α-cubebene	+	+	78	quercetin-3-O-malonylglucoside)	+	+
30	germacrene B*	+	-	79	apigenin-7-(6"-p-coumaryl)glucoside)	+	+
31	α-copaene	+	+	80	luteolin-7-apiosyl (1-2) glucoside	+	+
32	β-caryophyllene	+	+	81	naringin	+	+
33	β-chamigrene	+	+	82	apigenin-7-[rhamnosyl (1-2) galacturoside]	+	+
34	α-farnesene	+	+	83	acacetin-7-rutinoside	+	+
35	β-selinene	+	+	84	kaempferol-7-rhamnoside-4'-glucoside	+	+
36	germacrene D	+	+	85	luteolin-3'-methyl ether-7-aposyl (1-2) glucoside	+	+
37	α-zingiberene	+	+	86	apigenin-7-glucoside-4'-trans-caffeate	+	+
38	β-cadinene*	+	-	87	kampferol-3-(5"-feruloyl)alloside)	+	+
39	ocimarin	+	+	88	luteolin-7-O-rutinoside	+	+
40	nerolidol	+	-	89	kampferol-3-(6"-caffeoyl)glucoside)	+	+
41	sinapic acid	+	+	90	quercetin-3-(3"-p-coumaryl)glucoside)	+	+
42	apigenin	+	+	91	tulsinol E	+	+
43	acacetin	+	+	92	apigenin-7-rhamnoside-4'-rutinoside	+	+
44	genkwanin	+	+	93	kaempferol-3-glucoside-2"-rhamnoside-7-rhamnoside	+	+
45	luteolin	+	+	94	apigenin-7-rutinoside-4'-trans-caffeate	+	+
46	kaempferol	+	+	95	quercetin-3,7,4'-triglucoside	+	+
47	quercetin	+	+	96	ocimumoside A	+	+
48	ladanein	+	+	97	ocimumoside B	+	+
49	salvigenin	+	+				

Note: '+' compounds are detected as peaks according to the retention time; '-' compounds are not detected as peaks according to the retention time

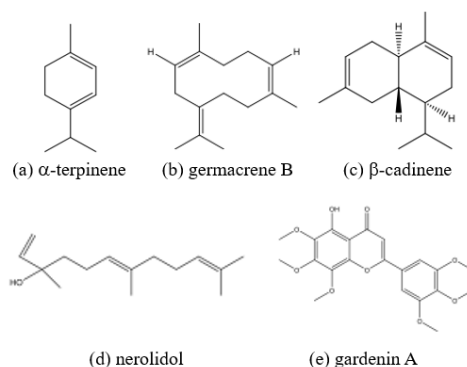


Figure 11. Specific non-volatile compounds only detected in shoot in vitro of *Ocimum* sp.

In vitro culture techniques are often used as a strategy to produce secondary metabolites. According to (Marchev et al., 2014) in vitro culture can change the pathway of secondary metabolite synthesis by expanding the production of phytochemicals in plants. Metabolite production which may represent a similar metabolite profile to native plants have been reported in types of organ culture such as shoots or roots (Scarpa et al., 2022). Callus culture also has the potential to produce secondary metabolites that have therapeutic significance (Fazili et al., 2022). Even callus culture has been reported to be more reliable than collecting plant material from the wild for extracting therapeutic metabolites (Chandran et al., 2020). On the other hand, PGR are one of the most important factors influencing cell growth, differentiation, and formation of metabolites (Jamwal et al., 2018; Ramabulana et al., 2021). The composition of in vitro culture and tissue media also determines the accumulation of secondary compounds. In this study, the different phytochemical profiles in shoot and callus tissue were thought to be caused by the PGR involved. Therefore, knowledge related to the use of PGR and the types of secondary metabolites produced is very important.

4. Conclusion

This study showed that in vitro *Ocimum* shoots were successfully induced by the addition of a combination of NAA and BAP. The adding of activated charcoal had no significant effect on shoot growth or root formation. Regenerated shoots from nodal explants from in vitro callus tissue had a different phytochemical profile. This proves that PGR in addition to affect cell growth and development it also the synthesis or production of secondary compounds.

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