



Research Article

EFFECT OF PHOTOPERIOD AND DIFFERENT GROWTH SUBSTANCES ON MICROTUBER PRODUCTION OF POTATO (*Solanum tuberosum* L.)

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Abstract- Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.) is one of the most important food crop in the world. The microtuber production in different *in vitro* culture conditions of photoperiod and temperature was studied and light conditions of 16 hrs. photoperiod was found to be best. Kufri Chipsona-1 variety found to produce maximum size and weight of micro-tubers in the medium of MS + 5 mg^l⁻¹ BA + 250 mg^l⁻¹ CCC. The higher concentration of growth retardants (500mg^l⁻¹ CCC) found to be less effective comparatively.

Keywords- Photoperiod, Growth Substances, Microtuber, *in vitro*, *Solanum tuberosum*.

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Introduction

Potato is a short day plant, cool season crop and C₃ plant. It is propagated by vegetative and sexually methods. In tropics, potatoes are harvested about 4 months after planting which results in higher yields, as compared to temperate climates, where the main crop growing season can extend upto 6 months. Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.) is one of the most important food crop which contributing to food and nutrition security in the world. Potato tuberization is characterized by anatomical modifications, hormone and physiological changes. The use of *in vitro* growth of plants for production of microtuber has the advantage of higher control of the different factors that might affect the tuber formation compared to plants grown in soil [1]. Growth regulators and photoperiod influence potato tuberization were studied by Hussey and Stacey[2], Villafranca et al. [3] and Silva et al.[4]. Cytokinins play an important role in creating the sink during plant development, and through regulating the expression of a gene involved in the partition of assimilates towards the stolons as observed in potato [5]. The present study was carried out to examine the microtuber production in three cultivar of middle Gujarat under different photoperiod, temperature and growth regulators.

Materials and Methods:

In-vitro cultures of *Solanum tuberosum* L. cultivars viz., Kufri Chipsona-1, Kufri Badshah and Kufri Pukhraj were used in the experiment. The axenic cultures were established on agar solidified (0.8%) Murashige and Skoog's medium [6] and *In vitro* cultures were multiplied for further experiment by Macwan et al [7]. Six to eight weeks old plantlets were sub-cultured aseptically using single nodal segments and incubated under different culture conditions for microtuberisation as given below,

The tuberisation media and different photoperiod treatments were used are as under,

L₁ = MS + 5 mg^l⁻¹ BA + 250 mg^l⁻¹ CCC + 8% Sucrose + 0.8% Agar

L₂ = MS + 10 mg^l⁻¹ BA + 250 mg^l⁻¹ CCC + 8% Sucrose + 0.8% Agar

L₃ = MS + 5 mg^l⁻¹ BA + 500 mg^l⁻¹ CCC + 8% Sucrose + 0.8% Agar

L₄ = MS + 10 mg^l⁻¹ BA + 500 mg^l⁻¹ CCC + 8% Sucrose + 0.8% Agar

P₁ = The cultures maintained under short photoperiod. 10 hrs. of light and low temperature 20 °C during day night.

P₂ = The cultures maintained under long days (16 hrs. of light) with low temperature 20 °C during day night.

P₃ = The cultures maintained under continuous darkness with low temperature of 20 °C.

Result and Discussion

Effect of photoperiod on microtuber production

Effect of photoperiod and different growth substances on microtuber production was studied and results were carried out. The result [Fig-1, 2 and 3] shows the effects during different stages of microtuberisation.



Fig-1 Photoperiod and temperature effect on microtuber formation, during initial stage

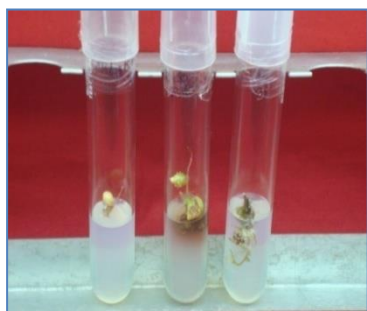


Fig-2 Photoperiod and temperature effect on microtuber formation during development stage

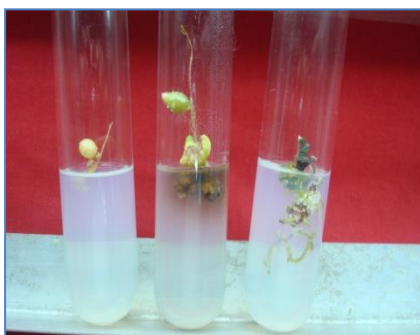


Fig-3 Photoperiod and temperature effect on microtuber formation during maturation stage

Weight of microtuber:

The Kufri Chipsona-1 is significantly higher in weight of microtuber while other two varieties Kufri Pukhraj and Kufri Badshah were found to be at par in weight of microtuber. Different light conditions and the different media treatment were also reported significant results.

P₂ treatment found to be best for obtaining higher weight of microtuber. L₁ treatment (containing 5 mg l⁻¹ BA + 250 mg l⁻¹ CCC + 8% sucrose) has maximum weight of microtuber followed by the L₃ treatment which contains MS + 5 mg l⁻¹ BA + 500 mg l⁻¹ CCC + 8% sucrose. Higher levels of BA (10 mg l⁻¹) with higher levels of growth retardants 500 mg l⁻¹ CCC gave least response in weight of microtuber (L₄ treatment).

It was noted that the growth retardant levels was kept constant and the levels of cytokinin was increased than high levels of BA (10 mg l⁻¹) decreased the weight of microtuber. Lower levels 5 mg l⁻¹ BA has positive effect on weight of microtuber. The [Table-1] denotes that the photoperiod P₂ has significantly higher weight of microtuber followed by P₃ and P₁. Kufri Chipsona-1 has the highest weight of microtuber followed by Kufri Pukhraj and Kufri Badshah in L₁ treatment. The lowest weight of microtuber was reported in L₄ treatment where both BA and CCC higher levels was used.

Same way the photoperiod P₂ gave highest weight (0.203gm) of microtuber followed by P₁(0.149gm) and treatment P₃ (0.124gm) in L₁ media where lower levels of BA (5 mg l⁻¹) and 250 mg l⁻¹ CCC was incorporated. It was also observed that lower level of BA(5 mg l⁻¹) gave higher weight (0.165) of microtuber in P₂ treatment where 500 mg l⁻¹ CCC (i.e. L₃ treatment) was added followed by P₃ (0.113gm) and P₁ (0.033gm) treatments. Same trend was observed in L₄ medium treatment but the weight of microtuber was least.

From the interaction table of (V x P x L) best treatment combination is P₂L₃V₂ (0.251gm) followed by P₂L₁V₃ (0.236gm). Further it was observed that lower level (5mg l⁻¹) of BA with higher level (500mg l⁻¹) of CCC yielded higher weight(0.251gm) of microtuber best in combination of P₂ i.e 16 hrs day length treatment in Kufri Chipsona-1.

The lowest weight of microtuber in P₁L₄ followed by P₃L₄ and P₂L₄ and the overall highest weight of microtuber were recorded in P₂L₁ combination, where V₃ variety had higher weight followed by V₁ Kufri Badshah. So it is concluded that P₂ is best and L₄ gave lower response for the weight of microtuber.

Table-1 Weight of microtuber (gm) for significant interaction

Treatment	Variety		
	V ₁	V ₂	V ₃
P ₁	0.078	0.063	0.071
P ₂	0.108	0.162	0.137
P ₃	0.089	0.103	0.077
S.E.m. ± (V x P)		0.0049	
C.D.		0.0209	
	V ₁	V ₂	V ₃
L ₁	0.148	0.166	0.161
L ₂	0.098	0.090	0.081
L ₃	0.078	0.137	0.096
L ₄	0.043	0.044	0.044
S.E.m. ± (V x L)		0.00569	
C.D.		0.0241	
	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃
L ₁	0.149	0.203	0.124
L ₂	0.083	0.115	0.071
L ₃	0.033	0.165	0.113
L ₄	0.019	0.059	0.052
S.E.m. ± (P x L)		0.00569	
C.D.		0.0139	
	V ₁	V ₂	V ₃
P ₁ L ₁	0.149	0.144	0.154
P ₁ L ₂	0.111	0.071	0.068
P ₁ L ₃	0.036	0.020	0.043
P ₁ L ₄	0.018	0.017	0.021
P ₂ L ₁	0.182	0.191	0.236
P ₂ L ₂	0.110	0.118	0.117
P ₂ L ₃	0.091	0.251	0.154
P ₂ L ₄	0.050	0.088	0.040
P ₃ L ₁	0.114	0.163	0.094
P ₃ L ₂	0.073	0.081	0.059
P ₃ L ₃	0.108	0.141	0.090
P ₃ L ₄	0.062	0.028	0.067
S.E.m. ± (V x P x L)		0.00986	
C.D.		0.0418	
C.V. %		19.97	

Size of microtuber

From the [Table-2] it was observed that the varieties were non-significant but the photoperiod and the different media were found to be significant for size of microtuber. Further it was recorded that P₂ gave maximum size (0.53 cm) followed by P₃ (0.48 cm) and P₁ (0.39cm). When different media was compared the L₁ treatment found to be best for obtaining maximum size (0.58 cm) and lowest size (0.32 cm) in L₄ medium.

The interaction between P x L and V x P x L were found to be significant, while V x P and V x L were non-significant. From the [Table-3] P₂L₁ combination found to be higher size (0.62 cm) of microtuber. The lowest combination was P₁L₄ where the size of microtuber is (0.22 cm). The results shows the significant effect in variety and photoperiod, variety and the different medium tested and the interaction between variety and both light and photoperiod.

From the results V x P x L maximum size of microtuber in P₂L₁ followed by P₂L₃ where recorded and the lowest microtuber size in P₁L₄. It was observed that the lower levels of BA with 250 mg l⁻¹ CCC had maximum size of microtuber. The photographs [Fig-4] shows the effect of different media in three different photoperiod while [Fig-5] reflects the effect of photoperiod in which 1st and 3rd media shows better results.



Fig-4 Effect of different media in three duration of photoperiod L₁ L₂ L₃ L₄ and P₃, P₂, P₁



Fig-5 Effect of photoperiod in different media
L₁ L₂ L₃ L₄ and P₃, P₂, P₁

Table-2 Effect of photoperiod and growth substances on microtuber production in different cultivar of potato

Treatment	Weight of microtuber (gm)	Size of microtuber (cm)
V ₁	0.09	0.47
V ₂	0.11	0.47
V ₃	0.10	0.46
S.E.m. +	0.003	0.014
C.D.	0.012	NS
P ₁	0.07	0.39
P ₂	0.19	0.53
P ₃	0.09	0.48
S.E.m. +	0.003	0.0105
C.D.	0.012	0.028
L ₁	0.16	0.58
L ₂	0.09	0.49
L ₃	0.10	0.49
L ₄	0.04	0.32
S.E.m. +	0.033	0.012
C.D.	0.014	0.032
Significant interaction		
V x P S.E.m. +	0.0049	0.0181
C.D.	0.0209	NS
V x L S.E.m. +	0.0057	0.0290
C.D.	0.0241	NS
P x L S.E.m. +	0.0057	0.0209
C.D.	0.01395	0.0324
V x P x L S.E.m. +	0.0099	0.0362
C.D.	0.042	0.0973
C.V. %	19.9	15.4

Table-3 Size of microtuber (cm) for significant interaction

Treatment	Variety		
	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃
L ₁	0.57	0.62	0.54
L ₂	0.45	0.54	0.47
L ₃	0.33	0.59	0.54
L ₄	0.22	0.36	0.38
S.E.m. + (P x L)		0.0209	
C.D.		0.0324	
P ₁ L ₁	0.55	0.57	0.60
P ₁ L ₂	0.47	0.47	0.41
P ₁ L ₃	0.32	0.32	0.35
P ₁ L ₄	0.21	0.19	0.27
P ₂ L ₁	0.63	0.58	0.64
P ₂ L ₂	0.54	0.52	0.58
P ₂ L ₃	0.57	0.62	0.59
P ₂ L ₄	0.41	0.41	0.26
P ₃ L ₁	0.53	0.60	0.49
P ₃ L ₂	0.44	0.52	0.45
P ₃ L ₃	0.52	0.59	0.52
P ₃ L ₄	0.42	0.30	0.43
S.E.m. +		0.0362	
C.D.		0.0873	
C.V. %		15.4	

From the above discussion it was concluded that Kufri Chipsona-1 found to be higher in weight and size. Light conditions of 16 hrs. photoperiod was found to be

best. Further, results revealed that lower level of cytokinin BA (5 mg l⁻¹) in treatment (L₁) with lower level of CCC (250 mg l⁻¹) had higher weight (0.16 gm) and size (0.58 cm) of the microtuber as compared to higher level of BA (10 mg l⁻¹) in treatment (L₂). When higher level of CCC (500 mg l⁻¹) were tested it was less effective. The microtuber fresh weights of some cultivar were increased in the light compared with continuous dark was reported [8,9].

As such there are varied statements on photoperiod requirement for microtuber production. As the tuberisation occurs in darkness in nature, it may be assumed that tuber induction could be better in darkness, but Lawrence and Barkar [10] found better in short photoperiod.

Wattimena [11] reported that the longer the photoperiod, better the tuberisation. Garner and Blake [12] also reported that a period of 16 hrs days followed by 8 hrs photoperiod gave most rapid development of microtuber.

Light condition produce higher microtuber weight than dark. Light caused greening of microtuber resulted in tuber weight was reported by Hossain, [13]. Probably light enhanced starch gradual accumulation in a more compact form than that in lower light or dark conditions. The results in respected of weight and size of microtuber obtained in our findings were also reported earlier [14-16].

Randhawa and Chandra [17] obtained much higher weight in MS + 10 mg l⁻¹ BA + 8 % sucrose, while Hossain [13] obtained higher weight in 5 mg l⁻¹ BA instead of 10 mg l⁻¹ BA, which is conformity in our results. Probably, varietal difference and their response are the main reasons for such a performance.

Koda and Okayawa, [18] indicated that the contradictory results among different scientists may be due to the differential requirement of growth regulators and other factors for microtuber induction and subsequent microtuber growth. Thus, it is concluded that depending upon the requirement, protocols need to be optimized for different cultivar as well as different characters also. Same conclusion made other scientist [18-20].

Conclusion

When microtuber production was compared under different *in vitro* conditions of photoperiod and lower level of temperature it was concluded that Kufri Chipsona-1 produced microtubers higher in weight and size. Light conditions of 16 hrs. photoperiod was found to be best with 20 °C temperature. Light conditions produce higher microtuber weight than dark, light caused greening of microtuber.

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Abbreviations

MS- Murashige and Skoog, BA- 6-Benzylaminopurine, benzyl adenine, CCC- Chlorocholine Chloride, V- variety, M-media, gm-gram, mg- milligram, ml-milliliters, cm- centimetre,

Ethical approval: This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors

Conflict of Interest: None declared

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