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Natural products are the most consistent and successful source of drugs. In India, Ayurveda remains one of the most ancient and living traditions, which is practiced for the treatment of various diseases and disorders. India has many number of plant species and medicinal properties have been assigned to several thousands. Many major institutes and research centres are currently involved in exploring this opportunity to investigate newer drugs from ancient principles of ayurveda. Further researchers believe in combining the strengths of ayurveda with modern scientific techniques such as NMR, MS and chromatographic techniques to provide new functional leads with high therapeutic value in a short span of time. But Natural products research often comes across many hurdles, which dims the drug development goals. We believe that natural products research information can potentially benefit many researchers involved in this area. Also we believe that the research on natural products is often staggered due to lack of required information available for medicinal plants. In order to combat these problems, Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide (Phcog.net)- A Platform for Natural Product Researchers was started, which makes innovative use of best tools for information dissemination and solve the hurdles in Natural Product Research. Pharmacognosy Network Worldwide is a non-profit network dedicated to Natural Products Research in order to develop promising drugs.

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It is a peer reviewed journal aiming to publish high quality original research articles, methods, techniques and evaluation reports, short communications and editorials of all aspects of medicinal plant research. The journal is aimed at a broad readership, publishing articles on all aspects of pharmacognosy, and related fields. The journal aims to increase understanding of pharmacognosy as well as to direct and foster further research through the dissemination of scientific information by the publication of manuscripts. The submissions of original contributions in all areas of pharmacognosy and Natural Products are welcome.

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A research paper typically should include in the following order

- Abstract
- Keywords

- Introduction
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements (If any)
- References
- Tables and/or Figures
- Appendixes (if necessary)
- Abbreviations (if necessary)

Abstract – Limit of 250 Words

A brief summary of the research. The abstract should be in structured format include a brief introduction, a description of the hypothesis tested, the approach used to test the hypothesis, the results seen and the conclusions of the work.

Example

Background: *Sophora flavescens* Aiton is an important medicinal plant in China. Early in vitro researches of *S. flavescens* were focused on callus induction and cell suspension culture, only a few were concerned with in vitro multiplication. **Objective:** To establish and optimize the rapid propagation technology of *S. flavescens* and to generate and characterize polyploid plants of *S. flavescens*. **Materials and Methods:** The different concentrations of 6-benzylaminopurine (BAP), indole-3-acetic acid (IAA) and kinetin (KT) were used to establish and screen the optimal rapid propagation technology of *S. flavescens* by orthogonal test; 0.2% colchicine solution was used to induce polyploid plants and the induced buds were identified by root-tip chromosome determination and stomatal apparatus observation. **Results:** A large number of buds could be induced directly from epicotyl and hypocotyl explants on the Murashige and Skoog medium (MS; 1962) supplemented with 1.4–1.6 mg/l 6-benzylaminopurine (BAP) and 0.3 mg/l indole-3-acetic acid (IAA). More than 50 lines of autotetraploid plants were obtained. The chromosome number of the autotetraploid plantlet was $2n = 4x = 36$. All tetraploid plants showed typical polyploid characteristics. **Conclusion:** Obtained autotetraploid lines will be of important genetic and breeding value and can be used for further selection and plant breeding.

Key words

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Introduction

Description of the research area, pertinent background information, and the hypotheses tested in the study should be included under this section. The introduction should provide sufficient background information such that a scientifically literate reader can understand and appreciate the experiments to be described. The introduction **MUST** include in-text citations including references to pertinent reviews and primary scientific literature. The specific aims of the project should be identified along with a rationale for the specific experiments and other work performed.

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Materials and/or subjects utilized in the study as well as the procedures undertaken to complete the work. The methods should be described in sufficient detail such that they could be repeated by a competent researcher. Please include the company sources for all uncommon reagents (kits, drugs, etc). Illustrations and/or tables may be helpful in describing complex equipment or elaborate procedures. The statistical tool used to analyze the data should be mentioned. All procedures involving experimental animals or human subjects must accompany with statement on necessary ethical approval from appropriate ethics committee.

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Data acquired from the research with appropriate statistical analysis described in the methods section should be included in this section. The results section should describe the rationale for each experiment, the results obtained and its significance. Results should be organized into figures and tables with descriptive captions. The captions, although brief, should tell the reader the method used, explain any abbreviations included in the figure, and should end with a statement as to the conclusion of the figure. Qualitative as well as quantitative results should be included if applicable.

Discussion/Conclusion

This section should relate the results section to current understanding of the scientific problems being investigated in the field. Description of relevant references to other work/s in the field should be included here. This section also allows you to discuss the significance of your results - i.e. does the data support the hypotheses you set out to test? This section should end with new answers/questions that arise as a result of your work.

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Natural products have proven to be a great source of new biologically active compounds. Thus, in an effort to discover new lead anti-malarial compounds, several research group screen plant extracts to detect secondary metabolites with relevant biological activities that could served as templates for the development of new drugs. Flavonoids have been isolated and characterized from many medicinal plants used in malaria endemic areas.^[10] However, controversial data have been obtained regarding their antiplasmodial activity, probably because of their structural diversity.^[11-13] More recently, several flavonoids have been isolated from *Artemisia afra*^[14] and *Artemisia indica*,^[15] two plants related to *Artemisia annua*, the famous traditional Chinese medicinal plant from which artemisinin is isolated.

Reference List: Author/Authors

JOURNAL REFERENCES

1. Single/Multiple Authors

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med*. 2002 Jul 25;347(4): 284-7.

2. More than six authors

Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, et al. Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after cortical contusion injury. *Brain Res*. 2002; 935(1-2): 40-6.

3. Organization as Author

Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. Hypertension, insulin, and proinsulin in participants with impaired glucose tolerance. *Hypertension*. 2002; 40(5): 679-86.

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Aboud S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. *Am J Nurs* [serial on the Internet]. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12]; 102(6): [about 3 p.]. Available from:

<http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>

Note: Plant/Micro organisms, in-vivo, in-vitro should be in italics.

6. Personal author(s)

Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

7. Editor(s), compiler(s) as author

Gilstrap LC 3rd, Cunningham FG, VanDorsten JP, editors. Operative obstetrics. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002.

8. Author(s) and editor(s)

Breedlove GK, Schorfheide AM. Adolescent pregnancy. 2nd ed. Wiczorek RR, editor. White Plains (NY): March of Dimes Education Services; 2001.

9. Organization(s) as author

Royal Adelaide Hospital; University of Adelaide, Department of Clinical Nursing. Compendium of nursing research and practice development, 1999-2000. Adelaide (Australia): Adelaide University; 2001.

10. Chapter in a book

Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, editors. The genetic basis of human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002. p. 93-113.

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Harnden P, Joffe JK, Jones WG, editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ Cell Tumour Conference; 2001 Sep 13-15; Leeds, UK. New York: Springer; 2002.

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13. WEBSITES

Website information

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