

IN VITRO SHOOT TIP CULTURE OF PINEAPPLE  
(ANANAS COMOSUS (L) HERR.)

C.S. Ranasinghe and K. Hirimburegama  
Dept. of Botany, University of Colombo.

Crowns of the pineapple fruit (Ananas comosus (L) Merr.) of both Kew and Mauritious types were used to isolate shoot apices. They were cultured on basic Murashige and Skog semi-solid medium (1962); supplemented with different types of growth regulators at varying concentrations. Sucrose content was 3% (W/V).

In all the tested media, shoot apex regenerated into shoots. But the best growth was seen when NAA and kinetin were supplemented. Out of the growth regulators tested, NAA appears to be more effective on shoot growth.

Upon transfer to the rooting medium containing IBA, the plantlets produced roots. The shoot apices developed into complete healthy plants having a countable number of 6 to 8 leaves within 8 weeks. Research is being continued to proliferate the shoot apices.