

## B-80 Induction of rooting in two species of bamboo, *Dendrocalamus asper* and *D. giganteus* Munro

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Low responses to root induction in woody perennials is a major drawback to propagule production by vegetative methods. Juvenile plants are characterised by their ability to a higher response to rooting which is lost during the process of attaining maturity. *In vitro* methods which are more amenable to responses also show these differences. Rooting of *Dendrocalamus asper* shoots, produced *in vitro* by axillary shoot proliferation using seedling explants, took place readily in a simple medium containing half strength MS major salts supplemented with indole butyric acid (IBA). Rooting of *D. giganteus* shoots which were derived from axillary shoot proliferation of explants of a 6-year old field grown clump, required a more complex medium supplemented with the phenolic compound coumarin and IBA. Finally a high percentage of root induction, 100% in *D. asper* and 78% in *D. giganteus* was achieved, indicating the feasibility of using *in vitro* techniques for propagating the 2 species.

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