

## STANDARDIZATION OF *IN VITRO* MULTIPLICATION OF TWO DIFFICULT-TO-ROOT BOUGAINVILLEA CULTIVARS FOR COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION

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*Stem node explants of two bougainvillea cvs. Los Banos Variegata and Mary Palmer Special cultured on Murashige and Skoog medium supplemented with 6-benzyladenine (BA), 1-naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) and gibberelic acid (GA<sub>3</sub>) containing medium. Best response was obtained on 2 mg/l BA + 0.5 mg/l NAA + 0.5 mg/l GA<sub>3</sub> supplemented medium where all the explants responded with 8.3 and 8.4 number of shoots per responding explant in cvs Los Banos Variegata and Mary Palmer Special respectively. Individual shoots were rooted on 4 mg/l NAA and successfully transferred to the field. Proliferating cultures are being maintained by serial sub culture. RAPD analysis showed genetic homogeneity among tissue culture raised plants.*

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