

## **IN VITRO CLONAL MULTIPLICATION OF SAFED MUSLI**

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**ABSTRACT:** *Chlorophytum borivillianum* (Liliaceae) an endangered species commonly known as 'Safed Musli' is traditionally used as tonic and aphrodisiac. Root of the plant contains steroidal saponin as secondary metabolite. It has a worldwide demand in ayurvedic and allopathic systems of medicine to cure general debility, fatigue, weakness and male sterility. Although this species has been brought under commercial cultivation but the systematic research on collection and evaluation of germplasm is still in demand. A tissue culture method has been developed at Department of Biotechnology, IGAU, Raipur for its large scale multiplication and conservation. Micropropagation using stem disc as explant has been achieved on Murashige and Skoog (MS) medium containing 5.0 mg l<sup>-1</sup> BAP. In every two weeks, 2-4 folds of multiplication were obtained. The plantlets developed thick long roots (100 %) in half strength MS media supplemented with 500 mg l<sup>-1</sup> activated charcoal. Survival rate of these rooted plantlet in soil is about 80 %.

**Keywords :** *Chlorophytum borivillianum, Micro propagation, Murashige and Skoog medium, Safed musli, Saponin.*