

Camellia Biotechnology: A Bibliographic Search

Dr. Tapan Kumar Mondal

Abstract

This bibliographic search covers the references till December 2001 on various aspects of tissue culture, molecular biology and genetic engineering work on tea and other related *Camellia* species.

Key words: *Camellia*, tea, micropropagation, DNA, genetic transformation, molecular markers.

Introduction

The genus *Camellia* of family Theaceae comprises more than 325 species. Among them tea is the most important economic species. Several other species are also important due to their ornamental value. Although vegetative propagation and conventional breeding are the only means for propagation and improving the plant, there is a tremendous scope to assist the conventional breeding by using various biotechnological techniques to improve this crop. Thus there is an increasing effort towards biotechnological research on tea.

More than 200 research papers including abstracts, review etc published till December 2001, are included here. The areas covered in the present search are micropropagation, protoplast culture, cryogenic preservation, synthetic seed production, genetic transformation, molecular markers like RAPD, RFLP, AFLP, SSR, ISSR, organelle DNA analysis and cloning of gene.

This bibliographic search will be of immense help for the researchers working on tea or other *Camellia* species with same interest across the world.

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Department of Plantation Crops and Processing, Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, P.O: Pundibari, Dist. Cooch Behar, Pin 736 165, West Bengal, India. (mondalk@yahoo.com)

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