

ZYGOTIC EMBRYO CULTURE OF THE MELIACEAE AND AXILLARY  
BUD CULTURE OF THE GIANT BAMBOO

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Zygotic embryo culture is an ideal technique to overcome problems of low seed viability and germination. Our objective is to develop techniques for large scale germination of Kohomba and Lunumidella seeds using in vitro culture technology. The two principal aspects of the technique are the determination of an appropriate condition for explanting the embryo and development of a suitable medium for its growth. Techniques have been already developed for successful germination of immature and mature seeds of Lunumidella and Kohomba in vitro.

Conventional vegetative propagation of Giant Bamboo is done by digging and planting portions of rhizomes. In a large scale undertaking this is hardly feasible. Therefore in vitro culture techniques need to be developed. Different aspects such as, type of explant, method of sterilization, dissection of explant and composition of media are studied at present.