IN VITRO PROPAGATION OF *Aquilaria* IN VIETNAM Nguyen Thi Tho¹, Pham Thi Quynh², Nguyen Thanh Tuan³, Vu Thi Phan⁴, Bui Van Thang⁵, Ha Van Huan⁶, Pham Bich Ngoc⁷, Nguyen The Nha⁸ ^{1,2,3,4,5,6,8}Vietnam National University of Forestry

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SUMMARY

Aquilaria genus is a group of plant that has capablity to form agarwood. Agarwood consists of essential oil which is ranked the best oil for flavouring, high-grade cosmetic, traditional medicine and making incense. Application of advanced method (*in vitro*) to propagate 3 Aquilaria species obtained several results. Fresh fruits of *Aquilria* cleaned by 70% alcohol and sterilized in 5 minutes with 0.1% HgCl₂, 5% NaClO in 10 minutes have resulted in the highest rate for germinating (84.6% for *A. crassna*; 72.7% for *A. rugosa* and *Aquilaria sp.*). For multi-shoot stage, the highest number of shoots ($6.27\pm1.07 - 6.8\pm0.87$ shoots per explant) was obtained in WPM* medium supplemented with 0.1 mg/l BAP, 0.1 mg/l kinetin, 0.3 - 0.5 mg/l NAA, 2% sucrose and 0.7% agar for all of 3 *Aquilaria* species. The WPM* medium supplemented with 1,0 mg/l NAA, 2% sucrose, 0.7% agar was the most effective for the rooting in *A. rugosa*, producing 86,7% of rooted shoots, an average of 3.40±0.4 roots per culture and 2.93±0.42 cm a root. The highest results of root formation for *A. crassna* and *Aquilaria sp.* were found in WPM* containing 0.5 mg/l NAA, 0.25 mg/l IBA. The result of this research indicated that the method of *in vitro* can be used to develop the suitable protocol for propagation of *Aquilaria* and to propagate the number of seedlings with high quality for development of *Aquilaria* in Vietnam. **Keywords: Aquilaria,** *in vitro* **propagation, tissue culture.**

Ngày nhận bài	: 30/8/2018
Ngày phản biện	: 02/11/2018
Ngày quyết định đăng	: 10/11/2018