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**Variant response of Liao, Aao, and protease during *in vitro* culture of *Argyrobium roseum***

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Indole acetic acid oxidase (IAAO), ascorbic acid oxidase (AAO), and protease were analyzed during *in vitro* tissue culture of *Argyrobium roseum*. These enzymes are crucial for biochemical regulation for growth and developmental processes. The enzymes were studied during growth from seed; callus induction from different explants; organogenesis period; and acclimatization conditions. It was observed that leaf derived calli presented 23.7% and 29.4% increase in IAAO and protease enzyme, respectively as compared to stem (16.1% and 91%) and root (17.1% and 23%, respectively). The decline level in Ascorbic acid oxidase was observed during *in vitro* conditions. Calli produced from leaf showed 18.47% decline in AAO level, whereas stem showed 12.5% and root 22.4%. Behavior of IAAO, AAO and protease changed during organogenic phase. Root accessible 19.3% decrease in IAAO level as compared to regenerated stem (31.8%) and leaf (29.9%), however protease showed 28.6% decline in regenerated leaf as compared to stem (26.4%) and root (31.7%). Regenerated leaves showed 39.57% increase in AAO enzyme level. Similar higher pattern was observed in stem (30%) and root (47%). The study highlights the biochemical behavior of IAAO, AAO and protease during *in vitro* life pattern of *A. roseum*.

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**Purification and characterization of a 32kd  $\beta$ -glucosidase (*seafp*<sub>32</sub>) having antifungal activity from the seeds of *Sechium edule* (jacq) Swartz**

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Plant diseases have emerged as a major threat to the global food security. Although, plants have no immune system; they possess a variety of defense mechanisms which include synthesis of pathogenesis related proteins in response to fungal/bacterial infection. The paper reports on the purification and characterization of a 32kD protein which has growth inhibitory activity against *Fusarium oxysporum*, *Trichoderma viride* and *Rhizopus stolonifer var stolonifer* from seeds of *Sechium edule* (Jacq) Swartz. The protein, designated as *SeAFP*<sub>32</sub>, inhibited mycelial growth of *Fusarium oxysporum*, *Trichoderma viride* and *Rhizopus stolonifer var stolonifer*, with an  $IC_{50}$  of  $10 \pm 0.14$ ,  $20 \pm 0.035$  and  $8 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  respectively. SYTOX Green uptake assay indicated that the protein affected the permeability properties of the fungal cell membranes. MALDI-TOF/MS analysis of the tryptic digested 32kD *SeAFP*<sub>32</sub> revealed 100% homology with  $\beta$ -glucosidase from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (acc. no. BAD94819). The 3D homology model of *SeAFP*<sub>32</sub> developed with Modeller 9.10 with rice  $\beta$ -glucosidase protein (PDB ID: 3GNO) as template, confirmed the high degree of homology of *SeAFP*<sub>32</sub> with  $\beta$ -glucosidase family of proteins. *In silico* docking of p-nitrophenyl  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside (pNPG) on 3D model of *SeAFP*<sub>32</sub> confirmed the presence and steric position of the conserved Glu<sub>105</sub>, Ser<sub>75</sub> and Glu<sub>161</sub> on the docking domain. Glutamic acid at P<sub>105</sub>' has been identified as the active site nucleophile required for the enzymatic hydrolysis of the glycosidic bond.

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