

CONTENTS

	Page
Contents	(x)
List of Tables	(xiii)
List of Figures	(ivx)
List of Abbreviations and Symbols	(xvi)
Chapter	
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Literature review	3
1.2.1 Phenomenon and regulation of flowering	3
1.2.2 Flowering process and reproductive development	9
1.2.3 Experimental system and methods of developmental analysis	11
1.2.4 <i>In vitro</i> flower induction system: new tool for flowering studies	13
1.2.5 Characteristics of the pigeon orchid: <i>D. crumenatum</i> Swartz	16
1.3 Objectives of the research	24
2 Materials and methods	25
2.1 Investigation of flowering pattern and pollen grain maturation	26
2.2 Determination of the natural stimulus and the effective physical and biological stimuli required for flowering	27

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

	Page
2.3 <i>In vitro</i> plant regeneration through embryogenesis and organogenesis	29
2.4 <i>In vitro</i> floral bud induction system and flowering	34
3 Results	36
3.1 Investigation of flowering pattern and pollen grain maturation	36
3.1.1 Flowering pattern and floral bud at the responsive stage	36
3.1.2 Time of pollen grain maturation	40
3.2 Determination of natural stimulus and the effective stimuli required for flowering	40
3.2.1 A sudden drop in temperature as a trigger	40
3.2.2 Low temperature as an effective physical stimulus	43
3.2.3 A separate application of BA and GA ₃ hormone as an effective biological stimulus	47
3.3 <i>In vitro</i> plant regeneration through embryogenesis and organogenesis	50
3.3.1 Developmental phases of plant regeneration	50
3.3.2 Suitable media for the three main developmental phases	50
3.3.3 Plant development via either somatic embryogenesis and organogenesis	54
3.4 <i>In vitro</i> floral bud induction system and flowering	55

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

	Page
3.4.1 Some stages of natural floral development	
served as a control	55
3.4.2 <i>In vitro</i> floral organ induction	58
3.4.3 Flowering of some induced plants after placing under	
natural greenhouse conditions	60
4 Discussion	65
5 Conclusions	76
References	80
Appendices	89
Vitae	98

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	Markers for pollen grain development of <i>D. crumenatum</i> based on the cytological appearance.	42
2	Effect of various periods of cold treatment on the flowering of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	46
3	Effect of plant growth regulators (PGRs) application on the flowering of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	48
4	Effect of basal media supplemented with various substances on various developmental phases of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	52
5	Details of a typical pattern of temperature variation throughout the day on induction days and non-induction days	96

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	Morphological characteristics of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	20
2	Flowers of <i>D. crumenatum</i> orchid show opened flowers with pure glittering white and the lip has a bright yellow disc	21
3	SEM micrographs showing the initial differentiation of the flower primordium of <i>Bletia purpurea</i> (Epidendroideae).	23
4	The natural inflorescence of <i>D. crumenatum</i> orchid taken on the flowering day	37
5	The possible events of the natural flowering of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	38
6	Micrographs show details of an inflorescence of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	39
7	Pollen grain development of <i>D. crumenatum</i> from the induction day to the day of anthesis	41
8	A typical pattern of temperature variation throughout the day on induction days (d0)	44
9	A typical pattern of temperature variation throughout the day on non-induction days	45
10	Photographs show flowering response of plants treated with 10^{-1} M BA	49
11	Developmental phases of plant regeneration	51
12	Plant developed through somatic embryogenesis	56
13	Shoots developed through organogenesis	57

LIST OF FIGURES (CONTINUED)

Figure		Page
14	SEM and LM micrographs show the floral buds of <i>D. crumenatum</i> at some stages of the natural floral development	59
15	Median longitudinal sections of the sequence of developmental events in cultured mini-shoots of <i>D. crumenatum</i>	61
16	Schematic illustrating the developmental events of <i>D. crumenatum</i> cultured <i>in vitro</i>	62
17	Flowering of the induced plant after placing under natural greenhouse conditions	64

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

AC	=	Activated charcoal
ANOVA	=	Analysis of variance
BA	=	Benzyladenine
CI	=	callus initiation medium
CRD	=	completely randomized design
CW	=	coconut water
DMRT	=	Duncan's multiple range test
DTA	=	day(s) to anthesis
GA ₃	=	Gibberellic acid
HP	=	Hyponex medium
KC	=	Knudson medium
LM	=	Light microscopy
M	=	Molar
NAA	=	1- Naphtalenacetic acid
NC	=	nodular compact structure
PLBs	=	Protocorm-like bodies
PGR	=	Plant growth regulator
SAM	=	Shoot apical meristem
SEM	=	Scanning electron microscopy
SPSS	=	Statistical Package for Social Science
VW	=	Vacin and Went medium