

SOMATIC EMBRYOGENESIS IN BRAZILIAN MYRTACEAE SPECIES EMBRIOGENESIS SOMÁTICA EN ESPECIES DE MIRTÁCEAS BRASILEÑAS

Quoirin M.¹ ; Oliveira, F. L. R. ¹; Degenhardt, J.²

Brazil is known for its important plant biodiversity. A way to exploit its natural resources is to domesticate and cultivate fruit trees such as species of *Plinia* (jaboticaba) (ex- *Myrciara*) and *Campomanesia*. Besides their use as fruit trees, they may be exploited for their medicinal properties. These genera have several species native to Brazil and endemic in the Southeastern and Southern regions. Due to the recalcitrant nature of its seeds and the lack of efficient methods of vegetative propagation, commercial jaboticaba orchards are difficult to establish. Somatic embryogenesis can be an alternative to obtaining, in a short time, large numbers of plants in good phytosanitary conditions. Hence, we studied the different stages of somatic embryogenesis of some species, mainly *Plinia peruviana* and *cauliflora*, as well as *Campomanesia xanthocarpa*. Here, we will present the results obtained for both *Plinia* species using mature seeds as starting material. The different steps of this process will be described: seed desinfestation *in vitro* establishment and different treatments applied to obtain embryogenic masses and somatic embryos.

¹Graduate Program in Agronomy - Plant Production, Federal University of Parana, Curitiba, Brazil. Contact: mquoirin@ufpr.br

² Embrapa Forestry, Colombo, Parana, Brazil