

RESPONSE OF HARDWOOD STEM CUTTINGS OF GUAVA (*Psidium guajava* L.) TO VARIOUS GROWTH AND ROOT PROMOTING REGULATORS.

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted to study the effect of 3 solutions of growth and root-induced regulators, Indolebutyric acid (IBA) at 4000ppm, Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) at 3.5% and Vitamin B₁₂ at 24mg/L along with wounding process, either solely or in interactions, on rooting ability of hardwood cuttings of guava cv. Balady (*Psidium guajava* L.). The basal portion of wounded and non-wounded cuttings just before inserted in the planting medium (Sand and Peatmoss 1:1 v/v) were dipped in these solutions for 30 second each.

Growth and root-induced regulators were significantly affected buds burst and survival percentages per cutting. A similar effect was shown on number of shoots and leaves per cutting at 1.5-month-old, along with rooting percentage, primary roots number, primary root length and secondary roots number per cutting at 3 month-old. Maximum average of buds burst % at 8-week-old (81.52%) and buds survival % at 12-week-old (62.83%) along with more number of shoots/cutting (3.43 shoots), more number of leaves/cutting (5.75 leaves), maximum rooting percentage (70.67%), more primary roots number/cutting (24.96 roots) and maximum primary root length/cutting (8.38cm) were noticed in hardwood wounded cuttings pre-planting treated with dipping in H₂O₂ solution at 3.5% and in IBA solution at 4000ppm for 30 second each (T₁₂). More secondary roots number/cutting (11.34 roots) was tabulated in wounded cuttings treated with wounding process only (T₈). The corresponding average results in non-wounded treated cuttings indicated that maximum buds burst percentage (72.65%) was in cuttings treated with H₂O₂ solution (T₃). Maximum buds survival percentage (53.05%), more shoots number per cutting (2.55 shoots), more leaves number/cutting (4.89 leaves), maximum rooting percentage (43.00%) and more primary roots number/cutting (16.65 roots) were observed in cuttings treated with H₂O₂ at 3.5% and IBA at 4000ppm for 30 second each (T₅). Maximum primary root length/cutting (7.10cm) and more secondary roots number/cutting (5.67 roots) were recorded for non-wounded cuttings treated with IBA at 4000ppm for 30 second (T₂).

INTRODUCTION

Guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) belongs to the family Myrtaceae. Recent time, it is grown all over the world for its high nutritious values, good taste and wider adaptability. Moreover, guava trees are prolific in bearing and they bear two crops a year that are summer and winter. Such yields are of a high remunerating value even without much care. Furthermore, the trees are fairly salt and drought resistant. Therefore, they can grow on different soil types, sandy, clay, deep, shallow and acid to alkaline at PH values ranged from 4.5 to 8.2 (EL-Baradi, 1975). Guava fruit is the rich source of vitamin C (10 times more than tomatoes) and its juice has 2 to 5 times more vitamin c than the

fresh orange juice (Hartmann *et al.*, 1981). Accordingly, guava trees are commonly considered as "the apple of the tropics" (Prakash *et al.*, 2002).

In Egypt, guava is one of the common and important fruits, fresh fruits, juice and canned products are gaining much popularity. It is grown over an area of 38,873 feddan producing annually 314,438 ton (The Ministry of Agriculture statistics, 2006). The usual method to propagate guava trees is from seeds sowing immediately after extraction. Seedling to tree is generally long lived, have long juvenile phase and is not true to type which bears fruit of variable size and quality (Mitra and Bose, 1990).

Referring to the risk of guava propagation by sowing seeds, the uneconomical situation of propagation by air layering (laborious and time consuming) or grafting and budding (need suitable rootstocks beside taking long time and requiring more care with very little success) along with the great demand for true to type guava trees (Ahmad, 1961; Tahir *et al.*, 1998 and Tahseen-Ullah *et al.*, 2005). Propagation through cuttings has got the attention of many workers in the field of guava propagation. Although guava cuttings are hard to root, they have been practiced by different scientists through the application of various root promoting hormones. Numerous natural and synthetic auxins such as Indoleacetic acid (IAA), Indolebutyric acid (IBA), naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA), 2,4-dichloro-phenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) and paclobutrazol (Mukhtar *et al.*, 1998; Debnath and Maiti, 1990). These root-induced hormone chemicals are utilized for several purposes in Horticulture and Agriculture such as formation of adventitious roots from stem cuttings, micro-propagation of plant species, fruit setting...etc. (Baloch, 1994).

Rooting is a crucial step in the successful propagation of guava by cuttings. Early studies with guava cuttings and other fruits having cuttings difficult to root were cleared the positive effects of certain growth and root promoting regulators to overcome some of the inherent difficulties encountered by the cutting to root. The present investigation was a trial in this line; it was initiated to find out the rooting ability of guava hardwood stem cuttings by the application of three growth and root promoting regulators, H₂O₂, IBA and vitamin B₁₂ used either solely or in combinations along with their interactions with wounding process. This study was to obtain further information on the activities of such root-induced hormone chemicals and describe the scope of clonal propagation of guava by hardwood stem cuttings.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was conducted in a private nursery equipped with mist irrigation unit and located at Om EL-Reda, Damietta governorate, Egypt during 2008 and 2009 seasons.

Cutting propagation: Hardwood stem cuttings of guava cv. Balady were taken from fruiting guava trees at 15-years-old grown in a private orchard located at the same district of nursery. Shoots source of cuttings, one year-old, are split wounded at the base portion of cuttings (5cm) in the first week of March, two weeks before they were taken. The cuttings wounded and non-

wounded were made of uniform size 25cm long and nearly one cm thick, having at least 4 buds and 2 mature leaves.

Application of growth and root promoting regulators: Just before the cuttings were inserted in the planting medium their basal portions (5cm) were dipped in indolebutyric acid (IBA) solution at 4000 ppm, Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) solution at 3.5% and vitamin B₁₂ solution at 24mg/L for 30 second each. These regulators were used with wounded and non-wounded cuttings either solely or in combinations. The former regulator (IBA) was prepared according to the formula i.e., 1 mg of IBA (in crystal form) in 1L of distilled water to make 1ppm solution (Hartmann and Kester, 1960). It was dissolved in 90% ethanol before adding distilled water to make the require strength. However, Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) at 3.5% was prepared by take 116.7 ml of (H₂O₂) and completed to 1000 ml by the addition of distilled water. Vitamin B₁₂ (V_{B12}) at 24mg/L was prepared by take 24 mg in 1000 ml distilled water.

Cutting plantation: The treated wounded and non-wounded cuttings along with the untreated control ones (dipped in distilled water for 30 second) were planted in well prepared black polyethylene bags 30cm in diameter at a depth of 5-6cm. The bags contained a mixture of sand and Peatmoss at ratio of 1:1 (v/v), 12 cuttings each. The planted bags were placed on the soil surface in greenhouse at a private nursery equipped with mist irrigation unit and immediately after planting were irrigated. The second irrigation was applied one week later. All other cultural practices were kept uniformly as usual during the research work.

Parameters measured on the planted cuttings: The following parameters were studied during the course of the study in the 2 tested seasons. Buds burst percentage per cutting at 4, 6 and 8 weeks from planting date; buds survival percentage per cutting at 8, 10 and 12-week-old; number of shoots and leaves per cutting at 1.5-month-old along with rooting percentage, primary roots number, primary root length and secondary roots number per cutting at 3 months from planting date.

Experiment design and layout: The experiment was laid out as randomized complete block design. The total number of treatments amounted to 14 treatments. Each treatment was replicated three times, 12 cuttings each.

Data regarding the tested parameters were recorded and subjected to statistical analysis. Means for various treatments were compared using "Duncans Multiple Range Test" (Duncan, 1955).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Guava trees are one of fruit species that their cuttings have never been rooted, or rooted only rarely and meager amounts, despite great efforts and much research (Luis *et al.*, 1986). There is convenience evidence that certain natural and synthetic root-induced hormones chemical are essential for root development. The great demand for true to type guava plants, vegetative propagation through cuttings has got the attention of many workers.

To overcome some of the inherent difficulties encountered by the cuttings to root, the applied growth and root promoting regulators may be helpful in that respect. Recent investigations in this subject proved that it can be successfully propagated guava plants by cuttings (Reddy and Singh, 1988; Rehman *et al.*, 1990; Mukhtar *et al.*, 1998; Wahab *et al.*, 2001; Ayaz *et al.*, 2004 and Tahseen-Ullah *et al.*, 2005). Therefore, the present research was designed to provide further information on finding out the rooting ability of hardwood stem cuttings of guava by the application of certain growth and root promoters, however one of them is used for the first time (V_{B12}) in that respect. According to the great similarity among the data of the 2 tested seasons, the obtained results will be explained as an average of both seasons of the study.

Buds burst and survival percentages per cutting

This part of study was carried out on the treated non-wounded and wounded cuttings along with the untreated control ones. The results on cuttings at 8-week-old for buds burst % and at 12-week-old for buds survival % were considered only to be the net results at the end of this study. It is evident from the obtained results in Tables (1&2) and illustrated in Figure (1) that the various growth and root promoters had a significant effect on these 2 parameters.

Maximum buds burst % per cutting was recorded in wounded hardwood cuttings pre-planting treated with dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000 ppm (T_{12}) with an average percentage of 81.52% while, the minimum average was resulted in cuttings treated with dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in V_{B12} at 24 mg/L (T_{13}) with the average value of 62.99%. The corresponding averages in non-wounded cuttings in the same tables were 72.65% and 52.00%. The former maximum percentage was resulted in cuttings of the treatment included dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% only (T_3), whereas the later minimum average was in cuttings dipped in IBA at 4000 ppm and in V_{B12} at 24 mg/L (T_7).

As for buds survival percentage per wounded cuttings, it was found that the effective treatment to give maximum percentage was " T_{12} " (dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000 ppm) with an average percentage of 62.83%. Minimum percentage was in cuttings of the treatment of dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in V_{B12} at 24 mg/L (T_{13}) with an average of 30.42%. The corresponding average values in non-wounded cuttings were 53.05% (maximum) with the treatment of dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000 ppm (T_5) and 28.75% (minimum) with T_7 treatment (dipping in H_2O_2 and in V_{B12}). It is important to record herein that the untreated control cuttings (T_1) tabulated the averages of 67.15 and 27.09% for buds burst and survival percentage, respectively. The percentage of buds survival % almost was the least if compared with the tested treatments.

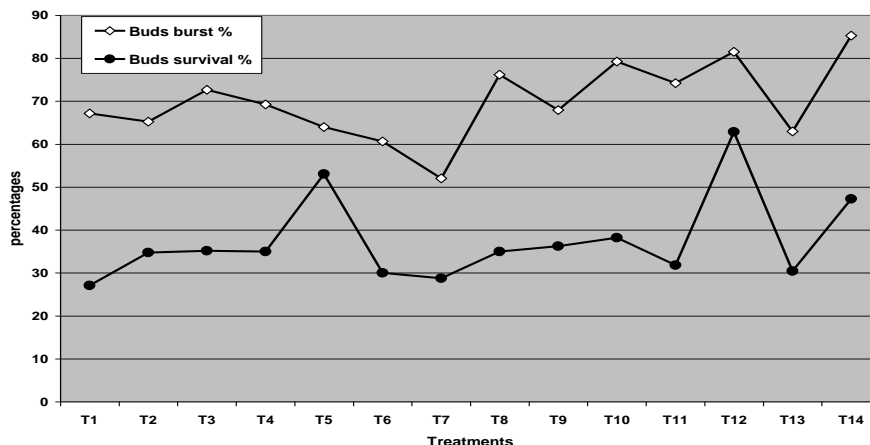


Figure (1): Diagram showing effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on buds burst percentage at 8-week-old and buds survival at 12-week-old from planting date per cutting of guava stem hardwood cuttings as an average of 2008 and 2009 seasons.

Number of shoots and leaves per cutting

The concerned results in Table (3) are evidence that the various tested growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process had obvious effects on shoots and leaves number/cutting at 1.5-month-old. Pre-planting wounding process at the basal portion of hardwood cuttings appeared to be an important factor to increase these 2 morphological characteristics. So, numbers tabulated for the treated wounded cuttings (T₈-T₁₄) were significantly higher than those of the treated non-wounded cuttings (T₂-T₇). The average values of the former group of treatments were ranged from 1.55 to 3.43shoots/cutting and from 1.68 to 2.75shoots/cutting. The corresponding average values of the later group of treatments were ranged from 1.68 to 2.55shoots/cutting and from 2.68 to 4.89leaves/cutting.

Maximum number of shoots and leaves/cutting was resulted in hardwood wounded cuttings pre-planting dipped in H₂O₂ at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000 ppm (T₁₂) with the average values of 3.43 shoots/cutting and 5.75 leaves/cutting. The next higher effect was in cuttings of the treatment "T₁₄" with the average values of 2.62 shoots/cutting and 5.52 leaves/cutting. Otherwise, the minimum number of shoots/cutting was observed on wounded cuttings of the treatment "T₁₃" (dipping in H₂O₂ and in V_{B12}) with an average value of 1.55shoots/cutting, whereas minimum leaves number/cutting (1.98 leaves) was in cuttings of "T₁₁" treatment (dipping in V_{B12} at 24 mg/L). Both wounded and non-wounded cuttings at 1.5-month-old were counted numbers almost higher than the control ones (0.9 shoot and 1.92 leaves per cutting).

The results of the previous four parameters if compared in relation to the effect of tested treatments on wounded and non-wounded cuttings

strongly pointed to the treatment of wounding process followed by dipping in H₂O₂ at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000ppm for 30 second each (T₁₂) as the best treatment to record significantly maximum buds burst and survival percentages as well as shoots and leaves number per cutting. Such super effect of "T₁₂" treatment can be attributed to the observation on cuttings which are demonstrated that wounding procedure created the greater destruction of basal stem tissues often resulted in rooting above the wounded portion and rotting occurred in the wounded zone. Therefore, the interaction treatment of wounding process followed by dipping in H₂O₂ and in IBA was the best to give cuttings had these highest characteristics indicated above. The superiority of "T₁₂" treatment is also in harmony with the explanations previously reported in certain studies described the reason of wounding process and the applied growth and root promoter effects. They attributed that not fore a direct effect on sprouting percentage, but they are responsible for inducing roots and strong food materials (carbohydrates) in the cutting provide sufficient amount of food for bud sprouting. However, at same latter stages after development of roots the auxin may have indirect effect on the sprouting which needs to be explored (Bleasdale, 1984; Mitra and Bose, 1990). In the same line, Tahir *et al.*, (1998) who worked with hardwood stem cuttings of guava attributed the production of number of shoots and leaves per cutting to the fact that higher amount of carbohydrates were accumulated in hardwood cuttings as compared with other types which helped a lot in sprouting. Better sprouting by hardwood cuttings also may be on account of an accumulation of endogenous growth promoters in the tissue of the treated cuttings.

Table (3): Effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on shoots and leaves average number per cutting of guava stem hardwood cuttings at 1.5 months from planting date in 2008 and 2009 Seasons.

Cutting Treatments	Symbol	shoots number per cutting			leaves number per cutting		
		2008	2009	Aver.	2008	2009	Aver.
Non-wounding							
Dipping in water	T ₁	1.00 g*	0.80 g	0.9 h	2.00 g	1.83 i	1.92 h
Dipping in IBA	T ₂	1.94 d	1.93 de	1.94de	3.50 e	3.90 ef	3.70 ef
Dipping in H ₂ O ₂	T ₃	2.27 c	2.29 c	2.28 c	3.97 de	3.90 ef	3.94 de
Dipping in V _{B12}	T ₄	2.06 d	2.07 cd	2.07 d	3.34 e	3.28 fg	3.31 f
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₅	2.50 b	2.59 b	2.55 b	4.88 bc	4.90 cd	4.89 bc
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₆	1.79 e	1.77 ef	1.78 ef	4.00 de	3.99 ef	4.00 de
Dipping in(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₇	1.67 ef	1.69 f	1.68 fg	2.68 f	2.67 gh	2.68 g
Wounding							
Wounding only	T ₈	2.05 d	2.07 cd	2.06 d	5.55 ab	5.95 a	5.75 a
Wounding + IBA	T ₉	2.63 b	2.60 b	2.62 b	4.52 cd	4.39 de	4.46 cd
Wounding + H ₂ O ₂	T ₁₀	2.47 b	2.52 b	2.50 b	5.30 ab	5.08b-d	5.19 ab
Wounding + V _{B12}	T ₁₁	1.68 ef	1.70 ef	1.69 fg	2.00 g	1.95 hi	1.98 h
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₁₂	3.42 a	3.44 a	3.43 a	5.71 a	5.78 ab	5.75 a
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₁₃	1.56 f	1.54 f	1.55 g	2.20 fg	2.23 hi	2.22 gh
Wounding+(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₁₄	2.63 b	2.61 b	2.62 b	5.55 ab	5.49a-c	5.52 a

*Within the column of each characteristic, means sharing one or more letters are insignificantly differed at 5% level according to the "Duncan Least Significant Value".

The positive effect of H₂O₂ and IBA at the applied concentration could be acted a synergist with endogenous hormones and hence better sprouting was observed. The more number of shoots with H₂O₂ treatment may be due to such chemical inhibits gibberellins biosynthesis, as paclobutrazol doing, caused growth suppression. The suppression in upward growth may enhance lateral growth (Tahseen Ullah *et al.*, 2005). The same investigators working on guava cuttings explained the increased shoots number according to Baloch, (1994) as auxins may be produced in abundance in growing regions, which may enhance the growth in cuttings.

Maximum number of leaves produced by such best treatment may be satisfied with the reason that the response of ability to develop adventitious roots in this type of cuttings is sufficient to significantly produce more roots. More roots number more supply nutrients from the media for the development of leaves. The positive effect of the applied growth promoters in that respect can be explained also as a significant effect on increasing the leaves number which is one of the production sites of natural auxins in the plant beside the main activities of photosynthesis and transpiration. The increased roots also may have necessitated the enhanced activity of photosynthesis and other activities carried out in the leaves, which in turn may have resulted in the increase of leaves in the treated cuttings (Wahab *et al.*, 2001).

These above explanations are in line with the results of several studies carried out on guava cuttings and other fruit trees. Such studies on guava cuttings and air layers strongly proved that a higher rooting percentage was resulted by the use of wounding process and/or IBA at certain concentrations (Macdonald, 1986, Dantas *et al.*, 1999; Bhagat *et al.*, 1999; AL-Obeed, 2000 and Abdullah *et al.*, 2006). In the same subject, Bartolini and Fabbri, (1982) and Uzunov, (1987) came to a similar result with peach cuttings given basal treatment with IBA at 1000-4000 ppm. Our results in this part of the study are also in conformity with the finding of Hartmann and Kester,(1985) who reported that IBA was helpful to increase sprouting, shoots and leaves number per cutting in guava stem cuttings, Pereira *et al.*,(1985) found that hardwood cuttings treated with IBA at 3000-5000 ppm gave good results.

Cutting root characteristics

This part of the present investigation was dealt with four root parameters of a great necessary in the successful application of vegetative propagation through cutting. Such root parameters were measured on the treated wounded and non-wounded cuttings as well as control ones at 3-month-old. The obtained results were presented in Table (4) and illustrated in Figure (2).

Fig. 2: Photograph showing the effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on rooting percentage and number of primary roots (T_5 and T_{12}) and number of secondary roots (T_8 and T_{12}) per hardwood stem cutting of guava cv. Balady at 3 month from planting date.

T_1 = Untreated control cuttings.

T_5 = Non-wounded cuttings dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5 % and in IBA at 4000 ppm for 30 second each.

T_8 = Wounding process only.

T_{12} = Wounding process + dipping in H_2O_2 at 3.5 % and in IBA at 4000 ppm for 30 second each.

1-Rooting percentage: The results in Table (4) revealed that rooting percentage was significantly affected by the tested various growth and root promoting regulators and their interactions with wounding process in the 2 tested seasons. Maximum rooting percentage (70.67%) was recorded for hardwood wounded cuttings pre-planting were dipped in H_2O_2 at 3.5% and in IBA at 4000 ppm (T_{12}). The next super effect was observed in non-wounded cuttings pre-planting treated with the same growth and root promoters (T_5) with an average percentage of 43.00%. Otherwise, minimum rooting percentage was resulted in the untreated control cuttings, which were in complete failing to root (T_1).

2- Number of primary roots per cutting: The various growth and root promoting regulators and their interactions with wounding process also indicated a significant effect on this cutting characteristic in the 2 tested seasons. Once more, the highest number of primary roots (24.96 roots/cutting) was noticed in hardwood wounded cuttings pre-planting subjected to "T₁₂" treatment. The non-wounded cuttings pre-planting with the same promoters (T₅) came to the next order in that respect with the average value of 16.65 roots/cutting. On the other hand, the untreated control cuttings were also failed to produce primary roots (T₁).

3- Primary root length per cutting: The concerned results in the same table and figure once more confirmed the significant effect of tested treatments on this cutting root characteristic in the 2 tested seasons. The longer primary roots (9.86cm) were resulted in hardwood non-wounded cuttings pre-planting treated with dipping in IBA at 4000 ppm and in V_{B12} at 24 mg/L for 30 second each (T₇). While, the wounded cuttings showed a similar effect in the same cuttings under "T₁₂" treatment with the average primary root length of 8.38cm.

4- Secondary roots number per cutting: It is evident from the concerned data that hardwood cuttings pre-planting subjected to wounding process only (T₈) produced significantly the highest number of secondary roots in both tested seasons with an average value of 11.34roots/cutting. The next super effect was observed in wounded cuttings received the "T₁₂" treatment (8.58 roots/cutting). As for, non-wounded hardwood cuttings, the tested treatments succeeded to induce significantly the highest secondary roots number/cutting (5.67 roots) with "T₂" treatment (IBA) followed by 4.70 roots/cutting with "T₅" treatment (H₂O₂ and IBA) and "T₃" (H₂O₂) treatment (4.42 roots). These average values significantly were lower than the same root promoters interacted with wounding process as indicated above (T₁₂). These findings greatly supported the significant super effect of wounding process (T₈) and its interaction with "IBA" (T₉), "H₂O₂" (T₁₀) or both (T₁₂) to activate the induction of secondary roots in the treated cuttings. Such treatments respectively tabulated the average values of 11.34, 7.44, 5.71 and 8.58 roots/cutting.

According to the forecited results of the measured root characteristics, it could be concluded that the applied "H₂O₂", "IBA" and their interaction with wounding process (T₁₂) had the best significant effect on most of these characteristics. Such findings agreed with the results obtained by Hartmann and Hansen (1957) who found that wounding the base of cutting by knife splits in the bark will markedly stimulates adventitious root production. The mode of action was explained by Macdonald,(1986) as the general purpose of wounding process is to stimulate the initiation of roots from cortex and phloem cells by exposing a greater surface area of these cells than is provided by the cut base in a non-wounded cuttings. He added that cells exposed by wounding may take up the hormone solution more readily as well as some water and other growth factors from the rooting medium. The current results also in harmony with those of the study carried out by Testolin *et al.*, (1988) on rooting peach cuttings in relation to wounding and IBA treatments. They found that wounding increased rooting percentage from 46 to 88% under the best condition. No difference was observed between the tested IBA at 2 concentrations in non-wounded cuttings, but in

wounded ones the lower level of IBA gave the best results. Remmick and Bilderback, (1993) reported that split wounding is a relatively common practice in England. Because of the potential benefits, this technique could offer for improving the rooting of difficult to root species.

As for the beneficial effect of IBA, it was evidenced in studies designed to describe the scope of clonal propagation of guava and other fruit trees by stem cuttings. Tahir *et al.*, (1998) indicated that hardwood cuttings and IBA solution performed well with respect to various root and shoot developmental characteristics. Dantas *et al.*, (1999) in Brazil studied the effect of dipping cutting in IBA at different concentrations and found an increasing effect to IBA treatments on rooting percentage. In the same line, Wahab *et al.*, (2001) with semi-hardwood cuttings of guava found that the highest number of roots per cutting was recorded in the cuttings treated with IBA at 4000 ppm. More recent, Abdullah *et al.*, (2006) working on guava stem cuttings treated with IBA at various concentration. The highest rooting and survival percentages were observed in cuttings treated with 0.4% IBA. Maximum number of primary roots was developed in the cuttings treated with 0.8% IBA followed by 0.4% and the lowest was in the untreated cuttings.

Concerning the effective use of IBA solution in cuttings of other fruit trees, Erez and Yablowitz,(1981) working on cuttings of various peach cultivars found that dipping cuttings in IBA at 0.1% or 1000 mg/L rooted best with different rooting percentages depending on rooting bed-temperature, taking time and the tested cultivar. Bartolini and Fabbri, (1982) came to a similar results with peach cuttings given basal treatment with 3000 ppm IBA. Also, Silveira *et al.*, (2004) with the objective to propagate avocados vegetatively by means of stem cuttings. Root formation was greatly increased by immersing cuttings in 2000 mg/L⁻¹ IBA for 10 seconds.

The great effect of "T₁₂" treatment on root characteristics is greatly supported the results obtained and discussed on the best effect of such treatment on buds burst and survival percentages (Table 1&2) and both shoots and leaves per cutting (Table 3) as these super effects were attributed indirectly to inducing adventitious roots. The roots once formed take up nutrients from the soil and supply to upper portion for intermediate use and to activate photosynthesis and other activities. This is why the shoots and leaves of successful cuttings remained intact and also started fresh growth. It is a point of important to record herein the reason of applied IBA at 4000 ppm in the present research. This was based on previous studies indicated almost the superiority of this concentration (Uzunov, 1987; Dantas *et al.*, 1999 and Wahab *et al.*, 2001). Moreover, it was in harmony with the results of Bhagat *et al.*, (1999) who reported that the treatment with IBA at 4500 ppm resulted in the highest percentage of rooting and survival percentages of guava air layers. Abdullah *et al.*, (2006) with guava stem cuttings came to similar results with IBA at 0.4%.

The obtained results in the present study provide the workers in the field of guava propagation an additive support to the applicability and usefulness of the applied treatments on successful propagated guava through hardwood stem cuttings. These successes add on easy, quick and economical method of vegetative propagation to avoid segregation progeny

in the orchard with diversified fruiting behavior and quality and, quest for true to type guava trees which has increased. Keeping in view the importance of guava propagation from cuttings and the role of growth and root promoting regulators in inducing the roots in cuttings. The most effective treatment among the tested ones was that of pre-planting wounded cuttings just before inserting in planting medium dipped in H₂O₂ solution at 3.5% followed in IBA solution at 4000 ppm for 30 second each (T₁₂). Therefore, it is the recommended pre-planting treatment among the tested ones for hardwood stem cuttings of guava cv. Balady which are known as difficult to root fruit species. The successful application of this treatment is in turn enhance the nursery operation in that respect.

Further studies are required to throw some light on the response of endogenous promoters and hormones as well as other biochemical constituents in the tissues of cutting especially in the basal portion as a result of the applied exogenous growth and root promoting regulators.

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استجابة العقل الساقية الخشبية للجوافة لمنظمات منشطة للتجذير والنمو مختلفة لطيف جرجس سمعان^١ ، الرفاعي فؤاد أحمد الدنجاوي^٢ و ميادة المرسي الزيات^١
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يهدف البحث الحالي إلى دراسة تأثير ثلاث مواد منظمة لاستحثاث التجذير والنمو هي:- محلول أندول حامض البيوتريك عند تركيز ٤٠٠٠ جزء في المليون ومحلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين عند تركيز ٣,٥% ومحلول فيتامين ب ١٢ عند تركيز ٢٤ ملجم/لتر تستخدم منفردة أو متجمعة أو مختلطة مع عملية تجريح لقواعد عقل الجوافة الخشبية تحت الدراسة، وقد تمت عملية التجريح على أفرع الشجرة مصدر العقل قبل فصلها وتحضيرها بأسبوعين.

استخدم في هذه الدراسة عقل ساقية خشبية من الجوافة صنف بلدي مقسمة إلى ثلاثة أقسام. القسم الأول: عقل تم تجريح قواعدهما، والقسم الثاني: عقل تركت بدون تجريح والعقل في كلا القسمين قبل غرسها في بيئة الزراعة مباشرة تم نقعها في محاليل المواد السابق ذكرها إما منفردة أو متجمعة ولمدة ثلاثون ثانية في كل محلول على حدة، أما القسم الثالث: فيشمل عقل تركت بدون تحليق وبدون معاملة نعتت فقط في الماء المقطر لنفس المدة قبل الزراعة لتعمل كمرقبة (كنترول). تمت زراعة العقل في أكياس سوداء من مادة البولي إيثيلين يحتوي كل كيس على تربة زراعة مكونة من خليط من الرمل والبيتموس بنسبة ١:١ ويتم زراعة ١٢ عقل في كل كيس. ووضعت الأكياس المزروعة على أرضية مشتل خاص داخل صوبة مزودة بوحدة رش ضبابي يقع في منطقة أم الرضا بمحافظة دمياط ، وأجري على العقل المعاملة وكذا المراقبة دراسة الصفات التالية وذلك خلال موسمي ٢٠٠٨ و ٢٠٠٩ :

- ١- النسبة المئوية لتفتح البراعم عند عمر ٤ ، ٦ ، ٨ أسابيع من تاريخ الزراعة.
- ٢- النسبة المئوية لبقاء البراعم حية عند عمر ٨ ، ١٠ ، ١٢ أسابيع من تاريخ الزراعة.
- ٣- متوسط عدد الفروع الخضرية للعقلة عند عمر ١,٥ شهر من تاريخ الزراعة.
- ٤- متوسط عدد الأوراق للعقلة عند عمر ١,٥ شهر من تاريخ الزراعة.
- ٥- قياس أربعة صفات جذرية للعقلة عند عمر ٣ شهور من تاريخ الزراعة وهي النسبة المئوية للتجذير ومتوسط عدد الجذور الأولية ومتوسط طول الجذر الأولي ومتوسط عدد الجذور الثانوية.

أظهرت النتائج المتحصل عليها تأثيرات إيجابية على الصفات المختبرة على العقل المعاملة تحت الدراسة تتلخص فيما يلي:

- ١- بينت القياسات المدونة في الجداول أن أعلى نسبة مئوية لتفتح البراعم عند عمر ٨ أسابيع وبقاتها حية عند عمر ١٢ أسبوع وأيضا أكثر عدد من الأوراق على العقلة الواحدة عند عمر ١,٥ شهر وجذور أولية على العقلة عند عمر ٣ شهور وأعلى نسبة مئوية للتجذير وطول الجذور الأولية عند عمر ٣ شهور ،قد لوحظ على العقل الخشبية المعاملة بالتجريح وغمست قبل الزراعة مباشرة في محلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين ثم في محلول اندول حامض البيوتريك لمدة ٣٠ ثانية لكل منهما (المعاملة رقم ١٢)

٢- أشارت النتائج إلى أن معاملة التجريح فقط لقواعد العقل (المعاملة رقم ٨) هي أفضل المعاملات المختبرة لتعطي أعلى عدد من الجذور الثانوية في العقل المعاملة وأن المعاملة لنفس العقل بالنقع في محلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين لمدة ٣٠ ثانية (المعاملة رقم ١٠) هي الأفضل لإظهار أكثر عدد من الأفرخ على العقل عند عمر ١,٥ شهر.

٣- أظهرت نتائج تأثير المعاملات المختبرة على العقل غير المعاملة بالتجريح قبل الزراعة أن أفضل المعاملات للحصول على أعلى نسبة مئوية لتفتح البراعم عند عمر ٨ أسابيع وأكثر عدد من الأفرخ على العقل المعاملة هي معاملة النقع قبل الزراعة لقواعد العقل في محلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين لمدة ٣٠ ثانية (المعاملة رقم ٣). وأن أعلى نسبة مئوية لبقاء البراعم حية عند عمر ١٢ أسبوع وأعلى نسبة مئوية للتجذير عند عمر ٣ شهور وأكثر عدد من الأوراق على العقل عند عمر ١,٥ شهر وعدد الجذور الأولية على العقل عند عمر ٣ شهور ، وجد في العقل تحت المعاملة بالنقع في محلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين ثم في محلول اندول حامض البيوتريك لمدة ٣٠ ثانية لكل منهما (المعاملة رقم ٥). أما أطول الجذور الأولية عند عمر ٣ شهور وأكثر عدد من الجذور الثانوية عند نفس العمر فقد سجلت على العقل غير المعرضة للتجريح وتم معاملتها قبل الزراعة بالنقع في محلول اندول حامض البيوتريك لمدة ٣٠ ثانية (المعاملة رقم ٢).

نجحت النتائج المتحصل عليها في هذه الدراسة في مد المشتغلين في مجال إكثار الجوافة بتدعيم إضافي باستخدام معاملات قابلة للتطبيق والاستفادة في نجاح إكثار الجوافة خضريا باستخدام العقل، بذلك نضيف طريقة سهلة وسريعة واقتصادية في هذا المجال إلى جانب أنها تمنع حدوث انعزال للنسل واختلافات في سلوك الثمار وجودتها كما تكون مطلوبة لإنتاج أشجار جوافة مطابقة للصفة، هذا عكس ما كان يحدث باستخدام التكاثر البذري لصعوبة التجذير في عقل الجوافة. وأفضل المعاملات المختبرة وأكثرها تأثيرا على معظم الصفات المختبرة على العقل الخشبية الساقية للجوافة الصنف بلدي هي تجريح العقل قبل الزراعة بأسبوعين ثم نقع العقل قبل الزراعة مباشرة في محلول فوق أكسيد الهيدروجين عند تركيز ٣,٥ % ثم في محلول اندول حامض البيوتريك عند تركيز ٤٠٠٠ جزء في المليون لمدة ٣٠ ثانية لكل منهما (المعاملة رقم ١٢). استخدام هذه المعاملة يعود بالنفع في زيادة كفاءة العملية المشتلية في هذا المجال.

قام بتحكيم البحث

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Table (1): Effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on buds burst percentage per cutting of guava stem hardwood cuttings at 4-, 6- and 8-week-old from planting date in 2008 and 2009 Seasons.

Cutting Treatments	Symbol	Buds burst % at 4 Weeks			Buds burst % at 6 Weeks			Buds burst % at 8 Weeks		
		2008	2009	Average	2008	2009	Average	2008	2009	Average
Non-wounding										
Dipping in water	T ₁	79.30bc*	78.02 bc	78.66 c	64.00d-f	67.67 d	65.84 ef	68.47d-f	65.83 fg	67.15 gh
Dipping in IBA	T ₂	68.83 d	68.06 de	68.45 d	83.30 ab	84.50 ab	83.90 ab	65.63 ef	64.85 fg	65.24g-i
Dipping in H ₂ O ₂	T ₃	54.03 ef	54.61 fg	54.32 f	79.77 bc	78.70 bc	79.24 bc	73.29 cd	72.00c-e	72.65d-f
Dipping in V _{B12}	T ₄	88.05 a	86.90 ab	87.48 ab	72.67 cd	73.67 cd	73.17 cd	69.67 de	68.83d-f	69.25e-g
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₅	81.89a-c	82.51a-c	82.20 bc	86.33 ab	87.00 ab	86.67 a	63.08 ef	64.86 fg	63.97g-i
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₆	45.14 g	43.89 h	44.52 g	66.67d-f	65.33 d	66.00 ef	61.22 f	60.00 g	60.61 i
Dipping in(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₇	48.33 fg	47.50 gh	47.92 g	54.10 g	53.00 e	53.55 g	50.67 g	53.33 h	52.00 j
Wounding										
Wounding only	T ₈	75.85 c	76.39 cd	76.12 c	62.61e-g	62.83 de	62.72 f	77.65 bc	74.78 bc	76.22 cd
Wounding + IBA	T ₉	76.80 c	77.78 bc	77.29 c	90.83 a	90.33 a	90.58 a	68.22d-f	67.66 ef	67.94f-h
Wounding + H ₂ O ₂	T ₁₀	85.00 ab	84.82a-c	84.91 ab	86.33 ab	87.67ab	87.00 a	78.50a-c	80.01 ab	79.26 bc
Wounding + V _{B12}	T ₁₁	55.67 ef	55.44 fg	55.56 ef	62.33 fg	63.00 de	62.67 f	74.33 cd	74.08 cd	74.21c-e
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₁₂	88.18 a	89.50 a	88.84 a	90.03 a	87.50 ab	88.77 a	81.73 ab	81.30 a	81.52 ab
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₁₃	60.33 e	61.89 ef	61.11 e	71.67c-e	69.50 cd	70.59 de	65.39 ef	60.58 g	62.99 hi
Wounding+ (IBA+V _{B12})	T ₁₄	88.40 a	86.73 ab	87.57 ab	89.00 ab	91.67 a	90.34 a	85.28 a	85.29 a	85.29 a

*Within the column of each characteristic, means sharing one or more letters are insignificantly differed at 5% level according to the "Duncan Least Significant Value".

Table (2): Effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on buds survival percentage per cutting of guava stem hardwood cuttings at 8-, 10- and 12-week-old from planting date in 2008 and 2009 Seasons.

Cutting Treatments	Symbol	Buds survival % at 8 Weeks			Buds survival % at 10 Weeks			Buds survival % at 12Weeks		
		2008	2009	Average	2008	2009	Average	2008	2009	Average
Non-wounding										
Dipping in water	T ₁	68.47d-f*	65.83 fg	67.15gh	36.11 d	35.42 ef	35.77 g	25.00 i	29.17 h	27.09 h
Dipping in IBA	T ₂	65.63 ef	64.85 fg	65.24g-i	52.92 bc	50.29 bc	51.61 de	33.86d-f	35.58d-f	34.72 ef
Dipping in H ₂ O ₂	T ₃	73.29 cd	72.00c-e	72.65d-f	59.25 ab	57.50ab	58.38 ab	36.08 de	34.19e-g	35.14d-f
Dipping in V _{B12}	T ₄	69.67 de	68.83d-f	69.25e-g	47.64 c	47.08 cd	47.36 e	34.17d-f	35.83d-f	35.00d-f
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₅	63.08 ef	64.86 fg	63.97g-i	53.92 bc	53.33a-c	53.63 cd	54.17 b	51.92 b	53.05 b
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₆	61.22 f	60.00 g	60.61 i	37.50 d	34.17 f	35.84 g	29.17 gh	30.83 gh	30.00 gh
Dipping in(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₇	50.67 g	53.33 h	52.00 j	37.50 d	35.42 ef	36.46 g	27.50 hi	30.00 h	28.75 gh
Wounding										
Wounding only	T ₈	77.65 bc	74.78 bc	76.22 cd	40.18 d	42.65 de	41.42 f	32.50e-g	37.50 de	35.00d-f
Wounding + IBA	T ₉	68.22d-f	67.66 ef	67.94f-h	54.86 bc	53.54a-c	54.20b-d	35.00d-f	37.50 de	36.25 de
Wounding + H ₂ O ₂	T ₁₀	78.50a-c	80.01 ab	79.26 bc	52.75 bc	53.61a-c	53.18 cd	37.53 d	38.94 d	38.24 d
Wounding + V _{B12}	T ₁₁	74.33 cd	74.08 cd	74.21c-e	39.31 d	41.67 de	40.49 fg	31.11f-h	32.50f-h	31.81 fg
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₁₂	81.73 ab	81.30 a	81.52ab	65.50 a	59.67 a	62.59 a	64.58 a	61.08 a	62.83 a
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₁₃	65.39 ef	60.58 g	62.99 hi	35.97 d	38.89 ef	37.43 fg	29.17 gh	31.67 gh	30.42 g
Wounding+ (IBA+V _{B12})	T ₁₄	85.28 a	85.29 a	85.29 a	59.85 ab	54.88ab	57.37 bc	48.17 c	46.33 c	47.25 c

*Within the column of each characteristic, means sharing one or more letters are insignificantly differed at 5% level according to the "Duncan Least Significant Value".

Table (4): Effect of various growth and root promoting regulators along with wounding process on root characteristics of guava stem hardwood cuttings after 3 months from planting date in 2008 and 2009 Seasons.

Cutting Treatments	Symbol	Rooting (%)			Primary roots number per cutting			Primary roots length per cutting(cm)			Secondary roots number per cutting		
		2008	2009	Aver.	2008	2009	Aver.	2008	2009	Aver.	2008	2009	Aver.
Non-wounding													
Dipping in water	T ₁	00.00g*	00.00 j	00.00 i	00.00 j	00.00 i	00.00 j	00.00 i	00.00 i	00.00 j	00.00 h	00.00 g	00.00 g
Dipping in IBA	T ₂	14.33 e	13.33 h	13.83 g	5.77gh	5.57 g	5.67gh	7.28 c	6.92 c	7.10 c	5.83 e	5.50cd	5.67 d
Dipping in H ₂ O ₂	T ₃	17.00 e	19.00 f	18.00 f	6.63 f	6.43 f	6.53 f	6.59c-e	6.36c-e	6.48c-e	3.83 g	5.00de	4.42ef
Dipping in V _{B12}	T ₄	16.00 e	16.23 g	16.12fg	6.17fg	6.43 f	6.30 f	5.43 f	5.47 f	5.45 g	3.92 g	3.90 f	3.91 f
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₅	42.67 b	43.33 b	43.00 b	16.60 b	16.70 b	16.65 b	5.82ef	5.72ef	5.77fg	4.67 f	4.73 e	4.70 e
Dipping in(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₆	15.67 e	16.00 g	15.84fg	5.23 h	5.30 g	5.27 h	2.90 h	2.93 h	2.92 i	00.00 h	00.00 g	00.00 g
Dipping in(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₇	06.17 f	5.93 i	6.05 h	3.77 i	3.57 h	3.67 i	9.91 a	9.80 a	9.86 a	00.00 h	00.00 g	00.00 g
Wounding													
Wounding only	T ₈	26.67 d	27.33 e	27.00 e	12.23 e	12.27 e	12.25 e	6.29de	6.32c-e	6.31d-f	12.00 a	10.67 a	11.34 a
Wounding + IBA	T ₉	35.00 c	34.44 d	34.72 d	13.17 d	12.83 d	13.00 d	6.78cd	6.73cd	6.76cd	7.04 d	7.83 b	7.44 c
Wounding + H ₂ O ₂	T ₁₀	35.00 c	36.00cd	35.50cd	15.60 c	15.70 c	15.65 c	6.55c-e	6.61cd	6.58c-e	5.43 e	5.99 c	5.71 d
Wounding + V _{B12}	T ₁₁	5.67 f	5.50 i	5.59 h	3.50 i	3.50 h	3.50 i	3.67 g	3.73 g	3.70 h	00.00 h	00.00 g	00.00 g
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +IBA)	T ₁₂	70.33 a	71.00 a	70.67 a	25.61 a	24.30 a	24.96 a	8.25 b	8.50 b	8.38 b	8.61 b	8.55 b	8.58 b
Wounding+(H ₂ O ₂ +V _{B12})	T ₁₃	16.32 e	16.00 g	16.16fg	6.07fg	6.23 f	6.15fg	3.59gh	3.82 g	3.71 h	00.00 h	00.00 g	00.00 g
Wounding+(IBA+V _{B12})	T ₁₄	37.67 c	38.00 c	37.84 c	15.40 c	15.43 c	15.42 c	6.04d-f	6.10de	6.07e-g	8.07 c	8.15 b	8.11 b

*Within the column of each characteristic, means sharing one or more letters are insignificantly differed at 5% level according to the "Duncan Least Significant Value".

