

Title: Chemistry and Activity studies of compounds
isolated from Tissue Cultures of Sri Lankan
medicinal plants

Abstract:

Tissue cultures of the plants *Vernonia Cinerea* (monara kudumbiya) and *Centella asiatica* (Gotukola) were investigated. Cultures were grown in the Murashige-Skoog's (modified) medium and the optimum conditions were determined for the production of rapidly growing cultures suitable for chemical analysis. Media were also developed for the production of root and rhizome from callus of *C. asiatica*.

Chemical analysis of *C. Asiatica* showed that the callus produced two novel compounds which were not detected in the intact plant. One of these was identified as a terpene. A third compound, also a terpene was produced in much higher concentration in the callus than detected in the intact plant.

Callus of *V. Cinerea* produced alkaloids and terpenoids.