

REVIEW ARTICLE

# Micropropagation and Conservation of Export-Oriented Ornamental Crops in Thailand

Kanchit Thammasiri<sup>1\*</sup>, Nipawan Jitsopakul<sup>2</sup>, Sutha Klaocheed<sup>3</sup>, and Suphat Rittirat<sup>4</sup>

## Abstract

The ornamental crops in Thailand are grown for house gardens, landscape design, cut flowers, and potted ornamental plants. Orchids, with a production area of about 5,600 acres (21% of the total) rank the highest among the ornamental crops, especially cut-flower crops, that are important to Thai agriculture and economy. The biotechnology used for ornamental crops in Thailand is tissue culture and the new development in cultural practices. Molecular techniques are studied only in universities and institutions because the cultivars are changed in a short time and do not get very high income. Orchid is the major crop using tissue culture due to its popularity, indispensability, and sustainability. In addition, tissue culture protocols for rapid propagation were developed for other ornamental crops, such as monstera, philodendron, aglaonema, alocasia, tillandsia, Piperaceae, Araceae, etc., of which production depends on unstable demand. Tissue culture techniques have been interestingly researched and used for enormous species and hybrids. On the contrary, many wild ornamental plant species are in endangered for extinction because of deforestation and natural disasters. Therefore, the conservation of orchids and other ornamental plants is urgently needed by various means, such as living collection, seed and pollen storage, *in-vitro* conservation, and cryopreservation from government agencies, private sectors, and people. The markets for ornamental crops are continuously increasing and new outstanding cultivars are being produced or improved by conventional breeding using the plant genetic diversity.

**Keywords:** Tissue culture, Conservation, Ornamental crops, Thailand.

<sup>1</sup>Center for Gardening and Horticulture, Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yunnan 666303, China.

<sup>2</sup>Department of Plant Science, Textile and Design, Faculty of Agriculture and Technology, Rajamangala University of Technology Isan, Surin Campus, Surin 32000, Thailand.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Agricultural Science and Fishery, Faculty of Science and Technology, Prince of Songkla University, Pattani 94000, Thailand.

<sup>4</sup>Program in Creative Innovation in Science and Technology, Faculty of Science and Technology, Nakhon Si Thammarat Rajabhat University, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80280, Thailand.

\***Author for correspondence:**

kanchitthammasiri@gmail.com

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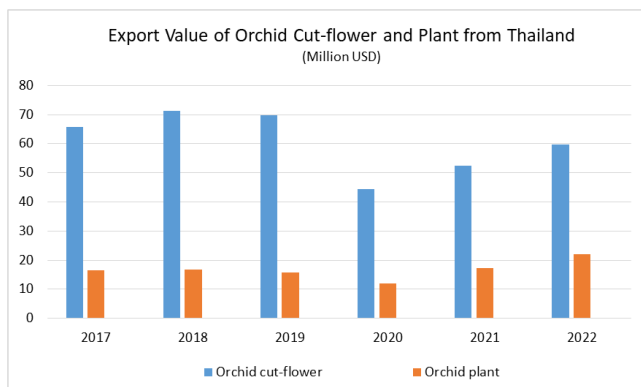
## Introduction

Thailand is situated in a hot and humid tropical zone of Southeast Asia, with a current population of about 69 million and a total land area of 128.4 million acres. Thailand is the 13<sup>th</sup> most plant-rich country in the world after Brazil, Colombia, China, Mexico, USSR, Indonesia, Venezuela, USA, Australia, India, Peru, and Malaysia (Cronquist, 1981). Tropical ecosystems, unlike those in temperate zones, provide wider niches and are able to support a much larger variety of plant, animal, and microbe species. It is estimated that there are approximately 15,000 plant species in Thailand, including 3,000 species of mushrooms and fungi, 633 species of ferns, and about 1,200 species of orchids. More than 779 species of plants possess active herbal ingredients used for traditional medicines (OEPP, 1996).

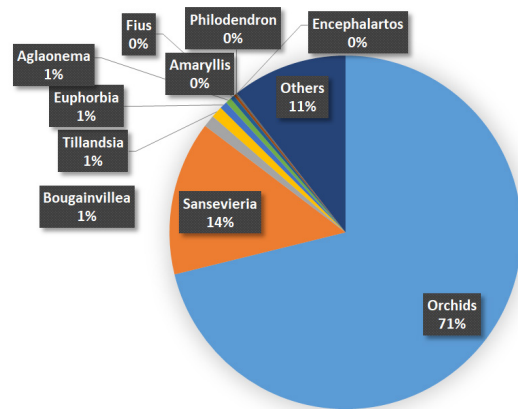
The ornamental crops in Thailand are grown for house gardens, landscape design, cut flowers, and potted flowering and ornamental plants, such as trees, shrubs, climbers, orchids, palms, ferns, grasses, bamboos, cacti, succulents, annuals, bulbs, and other flowering crops. The production area of Thai ornamental crops was estimated of about 26,800 acres (Agricultural Extension, 2022). Orchids, with a production area of about 5,600 acres (21%

of the total) rank the highest among the ornamental crops, especially cut-flower crops, that are important to Thai agriculture and economy, followed by jasmine flowers (3,000 acres), lotus (2,070 acres), *Calotropis gigantea* (1,500 acres), marigold (1,130 acres), rose (635 acres), and chrysanthemum (600 acres). The orchid export value started from less than one million USD to about 82 million USD in 2022. It is estimated that 54% of the orchids produced are exported and the rest 46% consumed in the domestic market. The export of cut-flower orchids (60 million USD) still predominates, but that of orchid plants has also been on a rapid increase, figuring at about 22 million USD in 2022 (DITP, 2022; Department of Customs, 2022) (Figure 1). Apart from orchids, other exported ornamental crops with export value of about 33 million US\$ were Sansevieria, Bougainvillea, Tillandsia, Euphorbia, Aglaonema, Ficus, Amaryllis, Philodendron, Encephalartos, and others, respectively (Figure 2).

At present, the biotechnology used for ornamental crops in Thailand is tissue culture and the new development of cultural practices. Molecular techniques are studied only in universities and institutions because the cultivars are changed in a short time and do not get very high income. Orchid is the major crop using tissue culture due to its popularity, indispensability, and sustainability. Other ornamental crops are monstera, philodendron, aglaonema, alocasia, tillandsia, Piperaceae, Araceae, *etc.*, of which production depends on unstable demand. Tissue culture techniques have been interestingly researched and used for enormous species and hybrids. On the contrary, many wild ornamental plant species are endangered for extinction because of deforestation and natural disasters. Therefore, the conservation of orchids and other ornamental plants is urgently needed by various means, such as living collection, seed and pollen storage, *in-vitro* conservation, and cryopreservation from government agencies, private sectors, and people (Thammasiri *et al.*, 2020). The markets for ornamental crops are continuously increasing and new outstanding cultivars are being produced or improved by conventional breeding using the diversity of plant genetic resources.



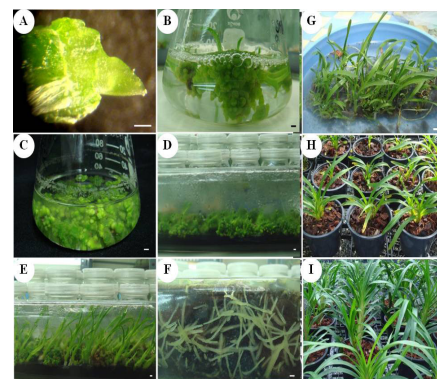
**Figure 1:** The export value of orchid cut-flower and plant from Thailand (2017-2022)



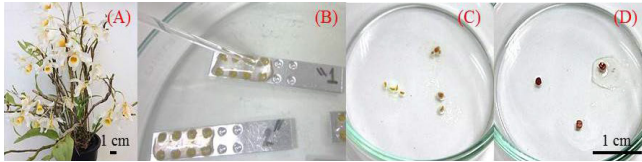
**Figure 2:** Ornamental crops export from Thailand in 2022

### Ornamental Plant Tissue Culture

Production technology, breeding, tissue culture, and molecular studies in Thailand started from tissue culture research in orchids in some universities in 1967. Later, in 1972, the orchid tissue culture business expanded rapidly to over 30 million plantlets and employed over 300 workers in 15 labs with about USD 2.4 million. In addition, tissue culture protocols for rapid propagation were developed for other ornamental crops, such as monstera, philodendron, aglaonema, alocasia, tillandsia, Piperaceae, Araceae, *etc.*, of which production depends on unstable demand. The suitable protocols and low-cost tissue culture were developed for commercialization, as well as conventional breeding programs for outstanding cultivars for international markets by government organizations, institutions, growers, and private companies. Major growing factors in natural growing habitats are studied for developing new cultural



**Figure 3:** Tissue culture protocol of *Grammatophyllum speciosum*. (A) A shoot tip was excised under a stereo microscope, (B) PLBs were induced in  $\frac{1}{2}$ MS liquid medium (2 months after culture), (C) PLBs were subcultured for multiplication (1 month after culture), (D) PLBs were cultured on  $\frac{1}{2}$ MS solid medium supplemented with 0.05% (w/v) of activated charcoal, 2.0 mg L<sup>-1</sup> NAA, and 1.0 mg L<sup>-1</sup> BA, (E) and (F) Shoots and roots were induced (3 months after culture), (G) Plantlets were removed from the bottle and washed with tap water, (H) Plantlets were transplanted to plastic pots filled with small pieces of coconut husk, and (I) Plants grown 2 years in the saran house. Bar = 1 mm. (Sopalun *et al.*, 2010)



**Figure 4:** *Dendrobium signatum* Rchb. f. (A) blooming flowers, (B) pollinia embedded with 3% sodium alginate gel on aluminum cryo-plates, (C) no survival of pollinia, and (D) survival of pollinia after cryopreservation using V cryo-plate method (Jitsopakul *et al.*, 2019).

practices, such as low-cost greenhouse, watering, fertilizer application, pest and disease control, postharvest handling, packaging, marketing, and logistics for new cultivars and tissue cultured plantlets.

Tissue culture is an indispensable tool for the commercial production of elite plant selections because of its low cost, uniformity, fast propagation, and high yield in a short period of time (Arditti and Ernst, 1993). It has been successfully carried out for many Thai orchid species and many ornamental crops (Table 1 and Figure 3). Most cut-flower orchids, *Dendrobium*,

*Oncidium*, *Mokara*, *Aranda*, *Ascocenda*, and *Cattleya* alliances are propagated successfully through tissue culture. Within 1 to 2 years, one young pseudobulb multiplies to over 10,000 plants from the laboratory and tissue-cultured plantlets are ready to be grown in the greenhouse.

### Conservation

The conservation of ornamental plant genetic resources is very necessary because their population in their natural habitats is decreasing drastically due to natural disasters, deforestation, and plants taken out from their natural habitat for commercial use. At present, ornamental plant germplasms are conserved through *in-situ* and *ex-situ* methods by government organizations, institutions, universities, private sectors, and people. For *ex-situ* conservation, most living collection, seed bank, and *in-vitro* conservation by tissue culture are implemented. Cryopreservation of pollen (*Amorphophallus koratensis*), pollinia, seeds, protocorms, protocorm-like bodies, and shoot tips of some Thai orchid species and hybrids were studied and reported from universities (Table 2 and Figures 4, 5, and 6).

**Table 1:** Study on ornamental crop tissue culture in Thailand

Family	Species	Explant	Regenerant	Medium	References
Acanthaceae	<i>Staurogyne repen</i>	Nodal segments	Shoots	MS medium + 0.15 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022a)
		Shoots	Roots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
Apocynaceae	<i>Adenium obesum</i> (Forssk.) Roem. and Schult.	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 22.2 µM BA	Kanchanapoom <i>et al.</i> (2010)
Araceae	<i>Aglaonema tenuipes</i> Engl.	Seeds	Callus	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Tilarux <i>et al.</i> (2022)
		Shoots	Shoots	MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	
		Shoots	Roots	MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	
	<i>Aglaonema simplex</i>	Apical buds	Shoots	MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	Laohavisuti and Mitrnoi (2005)
		Shoots	Roots	½ MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
	<i>Anthurium andraeanum</i> 'HC 028'	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 4.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022b)
		Shoots	Roots	MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
	<i>Anubias barteri</i> var. <i>nana</i>	Shoot tips	Plantlets	MS medium + 7.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022c)
		Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 7.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> kinetin	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2023)
		Shoots	Roots	½ MS medium	
<i>Anubias heterophylla</i>	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2020)	
	Shoot tips	Plantlets	MS medium + 0.1% (w/v) AC + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2021)	
<i>Cryptocoryne wendtii</i>	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 1 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Choojun <i>et al.</i> (2017)	
	Shoot tips	Multiple shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP		
	Shoots	Roots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Klaocheed <i>et al.</i> (2020)	
<i>Cryptocoryne walkerii</i>	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> kinetin	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2018)	
<i>Philodendron billietiae</i>	Shoot tips	Shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Maikaeo <i>et al.</i> (2024)	
	Shoots	Roots	½ MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA		

Campanulaceae	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> L.	Nodal segments	Multiple shoots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2021), Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022d)
		Micro shoots	Roots	MS medium + 0.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	
	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> L.	Micro shoots	Roots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022e)
	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> L.	Nodal segments	Multiple shoots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Klaocheed <i>et al.</i> (2024)
Shoots		Roots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA		
Dioscoreaceae	<i>Tacca chantrieri</i> Andre.	Shoots	Multiple shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2018)
Orchidaceae	<i>Aerides odorata</i> Lour.	Protocorms	PLBs	MS + 2.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2019)
		Shoots	Plantlets	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
		Protocorms	Plantlets	MS medium + 15% (v/v) CW + 0.2% (w/v) AC	
	Hybrid <i>Cattleya</i>	Shoots (1.0-1.5 cm)	Roots	MS medium + 15% (v/v) CW + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	<i>Cymbidium finlaysonianum</i> Lindl.	Protocorm	PLBs	VW liquid medium + 8.84 µM BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2017)
		PLBs	Plantlets	VW medium + 0.2% (w/v) AC	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	<i>Cymbidium finlaysonianum</i> Lindl.	Seeds	Protocorms	VW medium	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2018)
		Protocorms	PLBs	VW liquid medium + 8.84 µM BAP	
		PLBs	Plantlets	VW medium + 0.2% (w/v) AC	
	Orchidaceae	<i>Dendrobium cruentum</i> Rchb. f.	Shoot tips	PLBs	1/2 MS liquid medium + 1% (w/v) sucrose + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA
<i>Dendrobium crumenatum</i> Sw.		Callus	PLBs	MS medium + 0.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2018)
		PLBs	Plantlets	MS medium + 1.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
<i>Dendrobium crumenatum</i> Sw.		PLBs	Shoots	MS + 15% (v/v) CW	Klaocheed <i>et al.</i> (2021)
		Shoots	Plantlets	MS + 15% (v/v) CW + 0.2% (w/v) AC	
<i>Dendrobium palpebrae</i> Lindl.		Protocorms	Plantlets	VW medium + 7% (w/v) sucrose	Kalawong <i>et al.</i> (2020)
<i>Grammatophyllum speciosum</i>		Shoot tips	PLBs	1/2 MS liquid medium + 2% (w/v) sucrose	<b>Sopalun <i>et al.</i> (2010)</b>
<i>Grammatophyllum speciosum</i>		Protocorms (2.0 mm)	Shoots	MS liquid medium + 2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	Samala <i>et al.</i> (2020)
<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> (Breda) Blume & Rchb. f.		Wounded protocorm	PLBs	½ MS medium + 0.1 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA + 0.1 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2012)
<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> (Breda) Blume & Rchb. f.		PLBs	Plant conversion	MS medium + 15% CW + 0.2% AC	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2012)
<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> (Breda) Blume & Rchb. f.	Leaf explants	PLBs	½ MS medium + 9µM TDZ	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2014)	
<i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i> (Lindl.) Ridl.	Shoot tips	Adventitious shoots	VW liquid medium + 10 g L <sup>-1</sup> Sucrose	Prasongsom <i>et al.</i> (2016)	

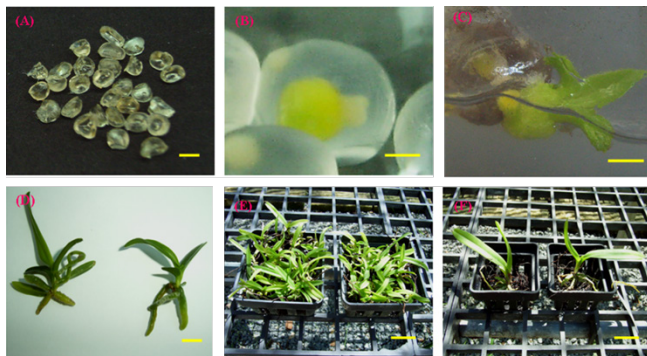
Orchidaceae	<i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i> var. Sagarik	Embryogenic callus	Somatic embryo (SE)	NDM medium + 2% sucrose + 15% CW + 0.2% (w/v) AC + under light condition	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2011)
	<i>Spathoglottis eburnea</i> Gagnep	Shoot tips	Shoots	½MS medium + 1 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA + 2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Pornchuti <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	<i>Spathoglottis plicata</i> Blume	Protocorms	PLBs	MS medium + 15% (v/v) CW + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2024)
		PLBs	Plantlets	MS medium + 0.2% (w/v) AC	
	<i>Vanda coerulea</i>	Shoot tips	Adventitious shoots	VW medium + 10 g/l sucrose	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Oxalidaceae	<i>Oxalis triangularis</i> A.st.-Hil	Petiole segments	Plantlets	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP + 0.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> 2,4-D.	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2022g)
		Petiole segments	Shoots	MS medium + 0.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BAP	Klaocheed <i>et al.</i> (2024)
		Shoots	Roots	½ MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> IBA	
Zingiberaceae	<i>Globba schomburgkii</i> Hook. f. via Bulbil	Microshoots (1 cm)	Shoots	MS medium + 2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ	Saensouk <i>et al.</i> (2018)
	<i>Kaempferia koratensis</i> Picheans.	Microshoots (1 cm)	Shoots	Liquid MS medium + 2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ + 1 mg L <sup>-1</sup> kinetin + 0.2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Saliwan <i>et al.</i> (2022)
	<i>Kaempferia parviflora</i> Wall. ex Baker	Terminal buds	Shoots	MS medium + 35.52 µM BA	Prathanturug <i>et al.</i> (2007)
	<i>Kaempferia marginata</i> Carey ex Roscoe	Microshoots	Shoots	MS medium + 2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA and 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ	Saensouk <i>et al.</i> (2016)
	<i>Curcuma lithophila</i> Škorničk. & Soonthornk.	Microshoots (1.5 cm)	Shoots	MS medium + 10 µM BA	Nakdang <i>et al.</i> (2023)
	<i>Curcuma longa</i> Linn.	Rhizomes	Callus	MS medium + 0.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> 2,4-D	Kaewthip <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	<i>Curcuma comosa</i> Roxb.	Bud	Shoots	MS medium + 3.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	Siringam and Pongprayoon (2022)
	<i>Curcuma singularis</i> Gagnep.	Rhizome buds	Shoots and roots	MS medium + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2017)
	<i>Kaempferia galanga</i> Linn.				
	<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Rosc.	Rhizome buds	Shoots and roots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> BA	
<i>Kaempferia angustifolia</i>	Bud	Shoots	MS medium + 1.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> Kinetin + 2.0 mg L <sup>-1</sup> TDZ + 0.2 mg L <sup>-1</sup> NAA	Saliwan <i>et al.</i> (2022)	



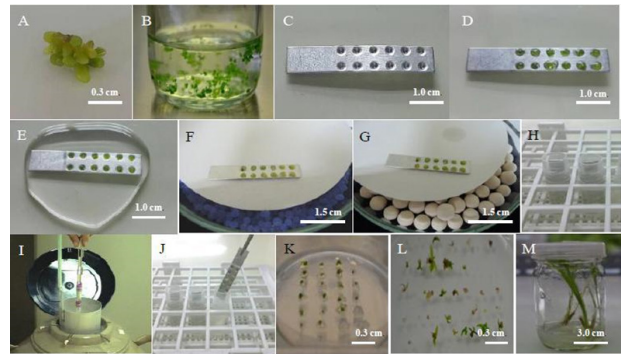
**Table 2:** Successful cryopreservation of *amorphophallus koratensis* and some Thai orchid species and hybrids

Genus	Species	Materials	Method	Dehydration	Survival/ regrowth	References
<i>Aerides</i>	<i>Aerides houlettiana</i> Rchb.f.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	60 min PVS2	100% survival, 66.7% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Amorphophallus</i>	<i>A. koratensis</i>	Pollen	Direct plunged into liquid nitrogen, 7 d	Collecting pollen at the first day after anthesis	33.8% pollen viability	Soonthornkalump <i>et al.</i> (2019)
<i>Arundina</i>	<i>A. graminifolia</i>	Protocorms	D cryo-plate	30 g drying beads in laminar air-flow cabinet	77.0% regrowth	Cordova and Thammasiri, (2016).
<i>Cymbidium</i>	<i>Cymbidium finlaysonianum</i> Lindl.	PLBs	Encapsulation	stored at 8 ± 2 °C, 105 d	44.0% conversion frequency	Klaocheed <i>et al.</i> (2018)
<i>Cymbidium</i>	<i>Cymbidium finlaysonianum</i> Lindl.	PLBs	Vitrification	precultured with 0.5 M sucrose for 2 d, 60 min PVS2 at 0°C	33.5% regrowth	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2019)
<i>Coelogyne</i>	<i>C. trinervis</i> L.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	20 min PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Dendrobium</i>	<i>D. cariniferum</i>	Protocorms	encapsulation-vitrification	60 min PVS2 at 25 ± 2°C	15% survival	Pornchuti and Thammasiri, (2008)
	<i>D. chrysotoxum</i> L.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	20 min PVS2	40% survival, 20% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
	<i>Dendrobium crumenatum</i> Sw.	PLBs	Encapsulation	stored at 8 ± 2°C, 105 d	50.0% conversion frequency	Klaocheed and Rittirat (2018)
	<i>D. draconis</i> Rchb. f.	Protocorms	V cryo-plate	preculture with 0.4 M sucrose for 3 d, 0.6 M in LS, 10 min PVS2	75% survival	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2020)
	<i>D. cruentum</i> Rchb. f.	Seeds	D cryo-plate	60 minutes drying beads in a laminar air-flow cabinet	68.89% survival, 57.78% germination	Prasongsom <i>et al.</i> (2020)
	<i>D. signatum</i> Rchb. f.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate D cryo-plate	40 minutes PVS2 3 hours in a laminar air-flow cabinet	55.6% survival 50% survival	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2019)
	<i>D. Walter Oumae</i>	Shoot tips	Encapsulation-dehydration	6–8 hours in laminar air-flow cabinet	13.33% survival	Lurswijidjarus and Thammasiri, (2004)
Genus	Species	Materials	Method	Dehydration	Survival/ regrowth	References
<i>Eria</i>	<i>E. bractescens</i> L.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	20 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 66.7% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Grammatophyllum</i>	<i>G. speciosum</i>	Protocorms	encapsulation-vitrification	60 minutes PVS2	14% regrowth	Sopalun <i>et al.</i> (2010)
	<i>G. speciosum</i>	Protocorms	droplet-vitrification	30 minutes PVS2	38% regrowth	Sopalun <i>et al.</i> (2010)
	<i>G. speciosum</i>	Seeds	D cryo-plate	120 minutes drying beads in silica gel	87.22% viability rate	Thanasuttanithi and Thammasiri, (2022)
<i>Paphiopedilum</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum exul</i> (Ridl.) Rolfe	Seeds	Encapsulation-vitrification	40 minutes PVS2	29.68% seed germination, growth index (GI) at 2.03	Imsomboon and Thammasiri (2020)

<i>Phalaenopsis</i>	<i>Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi</i> (Breda) Blume & Rchb. f.	PLBs	Encapsulation	stored at 25 ± 1°C, 30 days	100.00% germination	Rittirat <i>et al.</i> (2015)
<i>Pomatocalpa</i>	<i>Pomatocalpa spicatum</i> Breda.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	40 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Rhynchostylis</i>	<i>Rhyn. gigantea</i> (L.) Ridl.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	40 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Seidenfadenia</i>	<i>Seidenfadenia mitrata</i> (Rchb.f.) Garay.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	40 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 50% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Spathoglottis</i>	<i>S. plicata</i> Blume.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	20 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. coerulea</i>	Seeds	Vitrification	70 minutes PVS2 at 25 ± 2°C	67% germination	Thammasiri and Soamkul (2007)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. tricolor</i>	Seeds	Vitrification	180 minutes PVS2 on ice	13.6% germination	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2012)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. coerulea</i>	Protocorms	Encapsulation-dehydration	8 hours in a laminar air-flow cabinet	40%	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2008b)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. lilacina</i> Teijsm. & Binn	Protocorms	V cryo-plate	20 minutes PVS2	33.33% survival	Imsomboon <i>et al.</i> (2020)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. lilacina</i> Teijsm. & Binn	Protocorms	D cryo-plate	1-hour in silica gel	83.78% survival	Imsomboon <i>et al.</i> (2020)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. bensonii</i> Batem.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	40 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)
<i>Vanda</i>	<i>V. brunnea</i> Rchb.f.	Pollinia	V cryo-plate	60 minutes PVS2	100% survival, 100% capsule set	Jitsopakul <i>et al.</i> (2021)



**Figure 5:** Regrowth of *Vanda coerulea* protocorms after cryopreservation by encapsulation-dehydration in combination with loading solution. (A) Precultured beads after sterile air-flow dehydration for 10 hours, (B) Cryopreserved protocorms after 20 days of regrowth, (C) 3 months of culture on modified VW agar medium showing shoot growth, (D) Plantlets after 8 months of culture on modified VW agar medium (left: non-cryopreserved, right: cryopreserved plantlet), (E) Plantlets derived from cryopreserved protocorms after 5 months, and (F) 15 months of culture in the greenhouse. Bar for A-C = 1 mm, for D = 0.5 cm, and for E and F = 1 cm. (Jitsopakul *et al.*, 2008)



**Figure 6:** Cryo-plate method for *Arundina graminifolia* dehydrated with silica gel or drying beads. (A) Protocorm development, (B) Preculture of protocorms in 1/2MS liquid medium with 0.7 M sucrose for 1 d, (C) Pour the alginate solution containing 2% (w/v) sodium alginate in calcium-free 1/2MS basal medium with 0.4 M sucrose in the wells, (D) Place the precultured protocorms in the wells one by one, (E) Pour the calcium chloride solution containing 0.1 M calcium chloride in 1/2MS basal medium with 0.4 M sucrose, (F) Dehydration with 50 g silica gel, (G) Dehydration with 30 g drying beads, (H) Put each cryo-plate in a 2 mL cryotube, (I) Plunge 2 mL cryotubes into liquid nitrogen for 1 d, (J) Warming in 1.2 M sucrose solution for 20 minutes, (K) Plate on 1/2MS agar medium, (L) Regrowth, and (M) Regrowth after 60 days. (Cordova II and Thammasiri, 2016)

## Conclusion

Thai ornamental crop cultivation for the international markets has a bright future. The export values are high and quite stable. Orchids will continue to dominate other ornamental crops due to better technology know-how in cultivation, suitable climatic conditions, experienced and skillful growers and exporters as well as their nationwide popularity (Thammasiri, 1997). Orchid cultivation in Thailand is a good example of biotechnology development for an ornamental crop, which does not fall in the category of staple food, to have become the major crop of this country. It took a long time to be accepted gradually but firmly for earning high income and thereby enhancing the agrarian economy, which can follow suit.

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