



USE OF IN VITRO CULTURE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE SPECIES **GLADIOLUS IMBRICATUS**

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A requirement in medicinal drugs from a plant material remains very high. It is connected with a number of their advantages, namely: possibility of the long-term use, soft therapeutic action, availability and non-toxicity. As a result of reduction of natural supplies of medical plants, perspective is an alternative biotechnological method of production of biologically active substances (BAS) from the in vitro culture.

Gladiolus imbricatus is a rare wild species common in Central Europe and to the coast of Mediterranean Sea. This species belonging to Iridaceae family is included on the Red List of Ukraine as endangered species. *G. imbricatus* is a tetraploid species with $2n = 60$ chromosomes.

Moreover this rare species, known in the past as the "victory flower", is a rich source of vitamin C and minerals and the flowers are edible. In ethnomedicine the plant is used as anesthetic and lactogenic agent, have bactericidal, astringent, restorative (tonic), sedative actions.. Infusion of corm take with allergies.

Chemical composition requires study.

Aim of our work is reproducible in vitro culture techniques for the rare wild species *G. imbricatus*. It will guaranteed clonally propagation and multiplication for restoration of natural populations of this rare, Red listed species. The first results on medium-term conservation will help the stable maintenance in vitro with lower costs along with further possible use of embryogenic callus for cryopreservation.