

## Germplasm Theory

(1)

1. Prior to this Germplasm theory, "The Theory of Inheritance of acquired characters," was in use. It is ~~the~~ regarded as First theory of evolution. It is proposed by — — — — — Lamarck, a french Biologist. (1744-1892)

2. In 1892 August Weismann indicated that, there is continuity of germplasm. Later on it is known as "Theory of Germplasm". It outrightly rejected the theory of inheritance of acquired characters proposed by Lamarck.

A/c to this theory, every new individuals develop due to division of Zygote. The Zygote is formed by fusion of two compacting gametes ( $\sigma^7$  &  $\text{♀}$  of same sps. or kind).

Conservation of Germ Plasm:

The natural flora & fauna is facing a threat of being lost due to → natural selection  
 → Artificial selection  
 → Loss of habitat  
 → Change of climate  
 → Human disturbance  
 → Pollution  
 and many other causes.

The organisms are natural boon to us & our planet, <sup>i.e. the earth</sup> and its life system. They may possess many characters, though which are not being so useful at <sup>present</sup> time but become valuable in future. So their preservation is the duty of us, the human being.

Hence the preservation of germplasm of rare species, varieties is essential.

# Methods of Germplasm Conservation

Conserving seeds and vegetative organs for propagation are the methods of ~~passer~~ preservation.

~~Meristem preservation / preservation~~  
→ Meristem <sup>culture</sup> propagation, ~~pl~~ tissue culture aids helps in getting disease free culture from <sup>even</sup> a diseased plant source. Maintaining its clone provides a series of disease free germplasm of that variety or species. It certainly needs in-vitro culture & then transferring them to the field after a successful series of tests.

→ Freeze preservation is a technique to preserve the germplasm at <sup>ultra</sup> low temperature, [i.e.  $-196^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]. with the help of [liquid nitrogen] specially for microbes. These are helpful in <sup>the field of</sup> enzyme, food, medicine and even ~~are~~ animal husbandry.

It is a new, but less exploited field, though specimens covering virtually the entire phylogenetic spectra of higher and lower plants can be committed to freeze do so.

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→ Quendra 1968 firstly reported  
the successful preservation of culture plant cells.  
After this a marked improvement has been  
made in this field.

→ The different <sup>organisms including</sup> plants and even different  
parts of plants ~~are~~ show variation in their  
sensitivity towards temperature. If an organism  
or the part of plant is more sensitive, then  
~~it must be~~ ~~is~~ ~~being~~ ~~treated~~ ~~of~~  
it is given special treatment i.e. known  
as Pre-treatment.

→ This pretreatment is with certain  
chemicals known as Cryoprotectants. e.g.

→ Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)

→ Glycerol

→ Protein

→ Polyethylene glycol

→ In addition to these certain amino acids  
and their derivatives e.g.

→ Spermatate lysine

→ Glycine betaine,

→ Threonine hydroxyproline

→ Hydroxyproline

also show useful and valuable protective  
properties against freezing.

→ In 1980 Morris found that algae (5)  
Euglena gracilis (As considered ~~an~~ animal also)  
was successfully preserved by Freeze Preservation  
after treatment with Methanol. It  
shows the ~~is~~ Cryptogenic activity of methanol  
Methanol is ~~an~~ readily and widely available  
chemical.

→ The rate of change of temperature from  
~~higher~~ higher to lower ~~low~~ causes a  
precise pattern of events in the specimen.  
→ Hence the frozen, thawed and recovered  
cells are being tested to determine:—

- i) The number of survivals,
- ii) The survival state of total population.
- iii) Nature of Cryogenic injury  
at upper (External) level
- iv) Pattern of recovery of growth
- v) Storage of <sup>valuable</sup> ~~gem~~ genome.

→ Freeze preservation is an excellent storage  
method for some suspension cultures and relatively  
small ~~so~~ pieces of callus, organism, explant or  
animals. But there are certain specific  
limitations to its use.

## Conclusion :

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There are several areas which require to explore and emphasise for further course of work. Valuable information observations and informations have to be gathered for,

→ For continuous study of chilling injury; its relation to osmotic stress and the promotion to healing in the tissues, cells damaged by cold, may aid the development of appropriate supportive post-thawing treatment.

→ Development of simple laboratory for routine preservation.

→ Organised method of cataloguing of stored materials.

→ Continued awareness of process.

→ Training to the concerns.