TIEMI NAKAMURA CURRY, PH.D.
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CARRER SUMMARY

Research Scientist with over 35 years of experience in cellular genetics and tissue culture of tropical, cereal, fruits, vegetable crops and ornamental plants with extensive experience in the use of scanning and transmission electron microscopy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, Rutgers University, Department of Plant Biology and Pathology, New Brunswick, New Jersey. (2005-Present)

- Conduct advanced tissue culture and propagation in support of Rutgers Bluegrass, Dogwood, Hazelnut, Asparagus, Lily, Strawberry, Cranberry, Grape, Basil and Blueberry Breeding and Production Programs.
- Develop new, value-added plant species for the small fruit and consumer bedding and pot plant markets.
- Produce "starter plants" in quantity (100 to 1,500 units) of selected varieties and pack for delivery, as needed.
- Research plant bioreactor system as a means of reducing cost of plant material production for commercialization.
- Train graduate and undergraduate students in the art and science of plant tissue culture.
- Teach classes: "Plant Tissue Culture"; "Introduction to Horticulture" (Lab component)
- Photograph plants for use in research documentation, classes, and marketing materials.

Research Technician, Rutgers Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension Center, Chatsworth, NJ. University-based research center. Duties included cranberry and blueberry: tissue culture, molecular biology, chemical analysis, pathology and related services for growers. (2004-2005)

Senior Research and Development Scientist, Phytacell Technology LLC, Bordentown,NJ. Custom micropropagator and perennial plug supplier. Responsible for developing optimum methodology for micropropagating all plants of interest to client nurseries, including very difficult-to-work plants. (1994-2004)

- Manage tissue culture laboratory and build business.
- Train lab personnel in the best tissue culture practices.
- Establish and control product quality standards.

Research Scientist, Fitotek Unggul (PT), Jakarta, Indonesia. Agribusiness company specializing in the production of true-to-type plantlets for domestics and overseas customers. Introduced high technology to company's R&D department. Supervised laboratory personnel. (1993-1994)

- Responsible for design and set-up of new room for bioreactor micropropagation for ginger propagation.
- Successfully developed methodology for pineapple micropropagation using bioreactor technology.
- Responsible for development of new methodology for propagation of various new plants for commercialization.

Research Scientist, DNA Plant Technology Corporation, Cinnaminson, NJ. Leading agricultural biotechnology company which uses a broad spectrum of technologies to develop and commercialize plant-based products and environmental diagnostics for consumer and industrial markets. (1990-1993)

Assigned to the Oil Palm bioreactor micropropagation program-a joint research program between DNAP and Kumpulan Guthrie Berhard, a leading Malaysian agricultural company. Successfully developed efficient methodology for oil palm micropropagation.

- Key DNAP person in the transfer of this technology to Guthrie.
- Traveled to Malaysia to assist Guthrie R&D personnel with the application of this technology.
- Responsible for the investigation of new methodologies for micropropagation of ornamental palms within a United States Agency for International Development/Agricultural Biotechnology for Sustainable Productivity project.
- Create displays that explain the tissue culture process.

Teaching Assistant, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan. Laboratory of Biological Resources and Environmental Sciences. (1984-1990)

- Conducted ultrastructural research using scanning and transmission electron microscopy.
- Conducted research based on cellular genetics and tissue culture of fruits, cereals, vegetables and tropical crops.
- Instructed students in utilization of various research methodologies in studies of plant cell, tissue and organ culture.

Research Associate, Institute of Agronomy, Campinas, SP Brazil. Department of Plant Genetics. (1980-1984)

- Conducted research studies in plant cell, tissue and organ culture of coffee, bamboo, eucalyptus, rauwolfia, stevia, ipecacuanha, jaborandi and guarana.
- Responsible for the organization n and maintenance of the laboratory.
- Responsible for the supervision of laboratory personnel.

Research Associate, Laboratory of Clinical Pathology, Campinas, SP Brazil.
Conducted analytical studies of hematology, biochemistry, serology and immunology. (1977-1980)

Teacher, School of Science and Literature, Amparo, SP Brazil. Taught classes in organic and inorganic chemistry. (1977-1978)

Research Associate, Department of Biochemistry, State University of Campinas, Campinas, SP Brazil. Conducted research study on sugar cane leaf scald disease using serological methodology. (1976-1977)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Agricultural Science, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan. (1990)
Major: Agronomy
Thesis: "Ultrastructural Studies on In Vitro Morphogenesis of Coffee and Rice Plants"

M.S., Agricultural Science, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan. (1987)
Major: Agronomy
Thesis: "Scanning Electron Microscope Studies on Aseptic Tissue Culture of Rice and Several Other Plants"

B.S., Biology, Catholic University, Campinas, SP Brazil. (1975)

B.S., Science, Catholic University, Campinas, SP Brazil. (1974)

PUBLICATION AND PAPERS

Presented 20 papers at scientific conferences and published 31 articles in various scientific journals.

SPECIAL SKILLS

Proficient in Portuguese, Japanese and English. Experienced plant photographer. Proficient with Word, Picasa, Excel, and PowerPoint.