

Supplementary Table S1: Performance of *in vitro* plantlets treated for virus elimination, plantlets morphological traits, and post harvest bulbil characterization

Treatment combination	Plant height (cm)	Number of roots/plant	Number of leaves/plant	Leaves overall status	Bulbil induction (DAI)	Induction of bulbil	Bulbil weight (mg)	Bulbil equatorial diameter (mm)	Bulbil polar diameter (mm)	Overall rating on growth parameters
Shoot meristem culture (SMC)	16.21 ^{ab}	7 ^a	6 ^{ab}	Dark green in colour and healthy	72 ^{ab}	Bulbil induction was late compared to other treatments	617 ^{ab}	10.48 ^a	10.81 ^a	Good
Thermotherapy direct culture (TDC)	15.85 ^{ab}	7 ^a	6 ^{ab}	Dark green in colour and healthy	73 ^{ab}		532 ^{abc}	9.72 ^{ab}	10.55 ^a	Good
Chemotherapy direct culture (CDC)	14.3 ^{ab}	5 ^{cd}	6 ^{cd}	Greenish yellow colour leaf	63 ^b	Bulbil induction observed earlier than SMC & TDC	406 ^{bcd}	9.09 ^{ab}	9.40 ^{ab}	Average
Chemotherapy + meristem culture (CMC)	10.81 ^{bc}	5 ^{cd}	6 ^{cd}	Yellowish leaf and drying observed at the tip	54 ^{bc}	Bulbil induction was earlier than all other treatments	200 ^{de}	7.01 ^{bcd}	7.15 ^{bcd}	Poor
Thermotherapy + meristem culture (TMC)	14.52 ^{ab}	4 ^{bc}	6 ^{cd}	Greenish yellow colour leaf	62 ^b	Bulbil induction observed earlier than SMC & TDC	406 ^{bcd}	8.25 ^{bc}	9.16 ^{bc}	Average
Thermotherapy + chemotherapy	11.95 ^{bc}	5 ^{bc}	6 ^{bc}	Greenish yellow colour leaf	63 ^{bc}	Bulbil induction observed	329 ^{cd}	8.23 ^{bc}	8.53 ^{bc}	Average

direct culture (TCDC)						earlier than SMC & TDC				
Thermotherapy + chemotherapy + meristem culture (TCMC)	10.99 ^{cd}	4 ^{bc}	5 ^{bc}	Yellowish leaf and drying observed at the tip	51 ^{bc}	Bulbil induction was earliest	175 ^{de}	6.86 ^{cd}	7.49 ^{bcd}	Poor

(DAI-Days after Inoculation)