

## CURRICULUM VITAE

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yantree Devi Sankar-Thomas</b>
<b>Marital status</b>	<b>married, two children</b>
<b>Profession</b>	<b>Biologist</b>
<b>University Education</b>	<b>Ph.D. University of Hamburg, 2009</b> <b>M.Sc. University of Hamburg, 2003</b>
<b>Professional Affiliations</b>	<b>German <i>in vitro</i> horticulture research group (ADIVK)</b> <b>Society of Friends, the Botanical Garden Hamburg e.V</b>

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### EXPERTISE

- More than 10 years of experiences in plant tissue culture and micropropagation including culture initiation, shoot multiplication, induction of adventitious shoot regeneration and somatic embryogenesis.
- Establishment of *in vitro* and rooting protocols for a broad variety of plants, which are difficult to propagation by conventional methods.
- Plant Conservation - *ex situ* collections and *in vitro* maintenance of plant materials
- Considerable knowledge on greenhouse acclimatisation and field operations associated with plant propagation and tissue culture practices.
- Media preparation, sterilization and laboratory protocols
- Several years of laboratory experiments covering also the basic techniques in molecular biology.

### Skills

- Professional competence in plant tissue culture through collaboration with the botanical Garden in Hamburg on the micropropagation of rare and endangered species via somatic embryogenesis and other breeding methods.
- Professional skills on conventional plant propagation, horticulture, grafting methods, and the selection of quality plants for sales gained through training courses in plant nurseries
- Good knowledge in field work and greenhouse plant culture operation.

### Teaching Experience

- Research assistant in courses and seminars for plant identification and taxonomy Presentations and training courses in plant *in vitro* culture for graduate students and apprentice at the botanical garden.

### Personal Abilities

- Interpersonal skill and the ability to work independently, to manage a team and collaborate with other researchers.
- Ability to solve complex problems and an excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Abilities in supervising and training of students or employees, to assist in other projects and perform other duties when required.
- Team player, self motivated and conscious of a high degree of responsibility.
- Experience in analysing natural compound, and laboratory work including record keeping.
- At various international locations and in different working groups I could demonstrate my teamwork ability and quick apprehension to new tasks.

## Work Experience

<u>2010 - to date</u>	Research Scientist at the Botanical Garden, Biocenter Klein Flottbek, University of Hamburg. Responsible for the <i>in vitro</i> collections, maintenance and conservation of rare and endangered plant species. The development of protocols for <i>in vitro</i> propagation, acclimatisation of tissue-cultured plants. Presentations, courses on tissue culture for graduates and apprentices
<u>2004 - 2009</u>	PhD thesis " <i>In vitro</i> culture of <i>Camptotheca acuminata</i> (Decne) in Temporary Immersion System (TIS): Growth, development and production of secondary metabolites", University of Hamburg
<u>2002 - 2003</u>	Master thesis "Phenolische Substanzen und Polyphenoloxidasen in Blättern von <i>Bixa orellana</i> L., dem Orleanstrauch".
<u>1996 - 2002</u>	Studies in Biology at the University of Hamburg
<u>2001, 2003</u>	Research assistant in plant identification and taxonomy, seminars, presentations and courses supervision in plant <i>in vitro</i> culture. University of Hamburg.
<u>1998 - 2000</u>	Research assistant at the Senckenbergische Naturfor. Gesell., Hamburg. Responsible for the separation and determination of fish eggs and fry from samples of the North Sea
<u>1996 - 1998</u>	Research assistant at the Biologische Anstalt Helgoland (BAH), Hamburg. Responsible for literature recherche and assort of data on Cnidarians, separating planktonic and other organisms from samples of the North Sea for determination.

## Apprenticeship

1979 - 81                      Diploma School for Textile-designing (Suriname, SA)

**Languages**                      English (mother tongue), German (fluent), Indonesian (reasonable), Dutch and French (fair)

**Residences**                      Germany (1992 to date), Indonesia (87 - 92), Nigeria (83 - 85), Suriname (78 - 81)

**Computer Skills**                      MS- Office, PowerPoint, Sigma Plot, Smart Draw, Photoshop

**Avocation**                      Orchid and plant culture, gardening, travelling, plant propagation for commercial companies

**Publications:**

- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2003. Phenolische Substanzen und Polyphenoloxidasen in Blättern von *Bixa orellana* L., dem Orleanstrauch. 75 pp, Diplomarbeit (Univ. Hamburg)
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D.; K Saare-Surminski; R. Lieberei, 2008. Plant regeneration via somatic embryogenesis of *Camptotheca acuminata* in Temporary Immersion System (TIS). *Plant, Cell, Tissue & Organ Culture*, p. 163-173
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2009. *In vitro* culture of *Camptotheca acuminata* (Decaisne) in Temporary Immersion System (TIS): Growth, development and production of secondary metabolites. <http://www.sub.uni-hamburg.de/opus/volltexte/2010/4419/>
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2009. Sproßvermehrung von *Camptotheca acuminata* in Temporary Immersion System. ADIVK Aktuell 13.JG., Nummer 2, Dezember 2009, p. 21-31. Herausgeber: Arbeitskreis Deutsche In Vitro Kulturen e.V. (ADIVK)
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D.; R. Lieberei, 2011. Camptothecin accumulation in liquid culture medium, on differentiated cell and plant organs of *Camptotheca acuminata* (Decne) grown in different culture systems. *Plant, Cell, Tissue & Organ Culture*, Article No. s 11240-011-9942-6, 10p
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D.; R. Thomas, 2011. Somatic Embryogenesis, Organogenesis and Shoot Multiplication in Temporary Immersion System (TIS) of *Amorphophallus titanum* (Becc.) Becc. Ex Arcangeli (in prep.)

**Presentations:**

- K. Saare-Surminski; Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2003. Presentation of Temporary Immersion System. 'Biotechnica' International Trade Fair for Biotechnology. Hannover 07.-09.10.2003
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2005. *In Vitro* propagation of *Camptotheca acuminata* Decne., Nyssaceae via somatic embryogenesis. Presentation at the Turkeyen Campus (University of Guyana) and WIU (West Indies University, Trinidad)
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2006. *In Vitro* propagation of *Camptotheca acuminata* Decne., Nyssaceae via somatic embryogenesis. Temporary Immersion System -working group meeting- of ADIVK. Wismar, 29.11.06
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2009. Sproßvermehrung von *Camptotheca acuminata* in Temporary Immersion System. Temporary Immersion System -working group meeting- of ADIVK. IPK in Gatersleben, 24-25.09.09
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D.; R. Thomas. Since 2009 two times a year *In vitro* presentation at "Tropentag" inside the show green houses at -Planten un Blumen-, Hamburg.
- Sankar-Thomas, Y.D., 2011. Schwierig zu kultivierende Pflanzen (Tissue Culture for Challenging Plants) im Temporary Immersion System (TIS). University Hamburg