Ms: Effects of polyamines on the in vitro rooting of tree peony

The ms titled “Effects of polyamines on the in vitro rooting of tree peony” aims to describe a protocol for in vitro rooting of one cv of tree peony (P. suffruticosa “Wu Long Peng Sheng”) by using the Pas putrescine, spermidine and spermine.

The topic is within the scope of the journal and I did not find any previous publication of the material. Notwithstanding of it, I found a low importance under a scientific point of view since the role of Pas in the control of rooting and the interaction with the auxins during the physiological phase of rooting has been already well documented in the literature. In addition, the ms seems not completely adequate also under the practical point of view since the protocol as presently cast is lacking of some important aspects. Indeed the rooting phase is a problematic question in tree peony and it has been reported that also the time of sub culturing can affect the physiological status of TC plantlets. In this paper, the authors refer that three subcultures were performed before the experiment started but they don’t provide any data about the time the plantlets were kept in vitro neither about what can happen if, as usually it can be done under commercial point of view, plantlets are multiplied longer. The authors refer about a thesis which studied the entire protocol from which I suppose this article was derived. The thesis is in Chinese and for that not available for most part of the people, but, for sure, more details will be provided on it (e.g. why a three stage division of the rooting phase was performed). The authors could better specify it. I think that the ms should be improved by providing more data, if available, and the Discussion section should not a simple presentation of the achieved results. The English form should be improved.

I am sorry, but, the ms as presently cast cannot be accepted.