

Abstract

Nucleoli and Nucleolus regions (NORs) in diploid, triploid and tetraploid tea (*Camellia sinensis* L.) were stained using a simplified technique of silver staining based on the colloidal two-stage method. Nucleoli were visualised in interphase nuclei as black spots against a yellow background. The mode of nucleolar number corresponded to multiples of the somatic cell number and was a good marker for ploidy. Mitotic metaphase chromosomes were stained yellow to golden brown with strongly contrasting NORs appearing as black segments.