



Synthesis of periclinal chimera in cassava

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ABSTRACT. We provide the first report on the synthesis of a very productive interspecific periclinal chimera of cassava, with large and edible roots. The epidermal tissue of the chimera was formed by the cultivated species *Manihot esculenta* (E), and the subepidermis and internal tissue were formed by the wild species, *Manihot fortalezensis* (F). We used cytogenetics and morphological analyses to determine the origins of all tissues. These results may offer potential for the development of new lines for crop improvement based on the use of chimera composed of different combinations of wild species and cultivars.

Key words: Periclinal chimera; *Manihot*; Grafting; Edible roots