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Hopefully this research will provide useful information for future research and contribute to the development of studies in this field.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Approval Page	ii
Plagiarism Statement	iii
Preface	iv
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
List of Appendixes and Supplemental Materials	ix
List of Abbreviations	x
Abstract	xi
Chapter I. Introduction	1
I.1. Backgrounds	1
I.2. Research Questions	3
I.3. Research Objectives	3
I.4. Research Authenticity	4
I.5. Research Benefits	6
Chapter II. Literature Review	7
II.1. Literature Review	7
II.2. Theoretical Basis	24
II.3. Conceptual Framework	26
II.4. Hypothesis	27
Chapter III. Materials and Methods	28
III.1. Research Design	28
III.2. Research Variables	28
III.3. Operational Definition	28
III.4. Research Objects, Materials, and Equipment	29
III.5. Experimental Procedures	30
III.6. Data Analysis	33
Chapter IV. Results and Discussion.....	35
IV.1. Results	35
IV.2. Discussion	41
Chapter V. Conclusions	55
V.1. Conclusions	55
V.2. Future Directions	55
V.3. Summary	57
References	75
Appendixes and Supplemental Material	85

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Primers used for PCR analysis

33

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. <i>Gekko gecko</i>	7
Figure 2. Lateral view of <i>Lacerta vivipara</i> caudal vertebrae	11
Figure 3. Sagittal histological section of 14 dpa regenerated tail	36
Figure 4. Sagittal histological section of 25 dpa regenerated tail	38
Figure 5. Sagittal histological section of 30 dpa regenerated tail	39
Figure 6. Expressions of BMP3, Col2a1, MGP, and Acan	41

LIST OF APPENDIXES AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Appendix 1. Letter of Ethical Approval	85
Appendix 2. Morfometry of <i>Gekko gecko</i>	86
Appendix 3. The Distribution of BMP3 in the Regenerating Tail of <i>Gekko gecko</i>	86
Appendix 4. Expression of BMP3/Ef-1 α	87
Appendix 5. Expression of Col2a1/Ef-1 α	87
Appendix 6. Expression of MGP/Ef-1 α	88
Appendix 7. Expression of Acan/Ef-1 α	88

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Acan	: Aggrecan
Acvr2b	: Activin receptor type 2b
BMPs	: Bone Morphogenetic Proteins
cDNA	: complementary Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid
CNS	: Central Nervous System
Col2a1	: Type II Collagen Alpha 1
DNA	: Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid
dpa	: days post-autotomy
ECM	: Extracellular Matrix
EF-1 α	: Elongation Factor 1 Alpha
GAGs	: Glycosaminoglycans
GAPDH	: Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate Dehydrogenase
GDF10	: Growth and Differentiation Factor 10
Ihh	: Indian hedgehog
MGP	: Matrix Gla Protein
MMPs	: Matric Metalloproteinases
MSCs	: Mesenchymal Stem Cells
NP	: Nucleus pulposus
PBS	: Phosphate Buffer Saline
PNS	: Peripheral Nervous System
RNA	: Ribose Nucleic Acid
qPCR	: quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction
RT-PCR	: Reverse Transcriptase-Polymerase Chain Reaction
Shh	: Sonic hedgehog
SMAD4	: contraction of SMA and MAD (Mothers against decapentaplegic)
SVL	: Snout-vent Length
TL	: Total Length
VEGF	: Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor