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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### EFFECT OF RHIZOBACTERIA AND ARBUSCULAR MYCORRHIZAL (MA) ON GROWTH OF POTATO (SOLANUM TUBEROSUM L).

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Arbuscular mycorrhizal, potato, rhizobacteria.

#### Abstract

Potato is main staple food in several region of the world. The research aimed to study the effect of rhizobacteria and arbuscular mycorrhizal to potato growth. The research was conducted in Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Sumatera Barat (BPTP) and Laboratory of Microbiology, Faculty of Agriculture, Andalas University, West Sumatera, Indonesia from October 2017 to May 2018 West Sumatera, Indonesia. The factorial design in randomized block design (RBD) was used in the assay. The first factor was rhizobacteria isolates and second factor was arbuscular mycorrhizal (AM). The rhizobacteria isolates were no rhizobacteria, RZ1.L2.4, RZ1.L2.1, RZ2.L2.1. The AM doses were 5 g/plant, 10 g/plant and 15 g/plant. The result showed that the best treatment was RZ2.L2.1 and 5 g/plant of MA dose for potato growth.

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#### Introduction:-

Potato is staple food together with rice, sorghum and corn [1]. It is one of horticultural commodities that plays role as carbohydrate source and raw material for various food including vegetable and snacks. Potato contains high carbohydrate content and this plant can be used carbohydrate source replacing rice for diabetics [2]. Potato also contributes the economic development due to it is intensively cultivated by many farmers and absorbing many employees.

The main problem that faced by Indonesia government in potato cultivation is low production. As a comparison, the potato productivity per hectare in Australia is 39.69 ton, United States 47.15 ton, Japan 30 ton and Laos 30.04 ton [3]. To solve this problem, many ways can be used and one of them is rhizobacteria and mycorrhizal application [4][5]. Rhizobacteria is bacteria that lives in root zone and plays role as plant promoting. This ability is known as Plant Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR). PGPR was reported it could increase the growth and yield of potato [6]. PGPR also increased the plant resistance to pest and disease [7]. Rhizobacteria could be isolated from many plants such as cabbage, apple, soybean and gramineae plant [8][9]. In gramineae plant, *Azotobacter paspali*, *Pseudomonas* sp. and *Beijerinckia* sp. *Azotobacter* were reported to play role as N<sub>2</sub> fixer bacteria that can produce gibberellin, cytokinin and indole acetic acid, the compounds can stimulate root growth [10].

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The other way to increase the growth and yield of plant, several researches reported the mycorrhizal arbuscular can be used [11]. Mycorrhizal arbuscular (MA) is a system that is formed as manifestation of mutualism symbiotic between fungi (myces) and roots (rhiza) of higher level plants [12]. Interaction between rhizobacteria and MA is not widely reported. The interaction of these can be applied to increase growth and yield of potato in Indonesia. The research aimed to study the interaction between rhizobacteria and MA in increasing the growth and yield of potato.

### Material and method:-

The research was conducted in Balai Pengkajian Teknologi Sumatera Barat (BPTP) and Laboratory of Microbiology, Faculty of Agriculture, Andal's University, West Sumatera, Indonesia from October 2017 to May 2018 West Sumatera, Indonesia. The materials used in the assay were seed potato variety Granola, Rhizobacteria isolates, MA isolates, water, labels, plastic, envelopes, manure, lime, NPK fertilizer.

The factorial design in randomized block design (RBD) was used in the assay. The first factor was rhizobacteria isolates :

1. R0 : no rhizobacteria
2. R1 : RZ1.L2.4
3. R2 : RZ1.L2.1
4. R3 : RZ2.L2.1

The second factor was Mycorrhizal arbuscular (MA)dose :

1. M1 : 5 g/plant
2. M2 : 10 g/plant
3. M3 : 15 g/plant

The treatments were replied 3 times. The data was analysed by analysis of variance and followed by Duncan's New Multiple Range Test in 5 %.

### Result and discussion:-

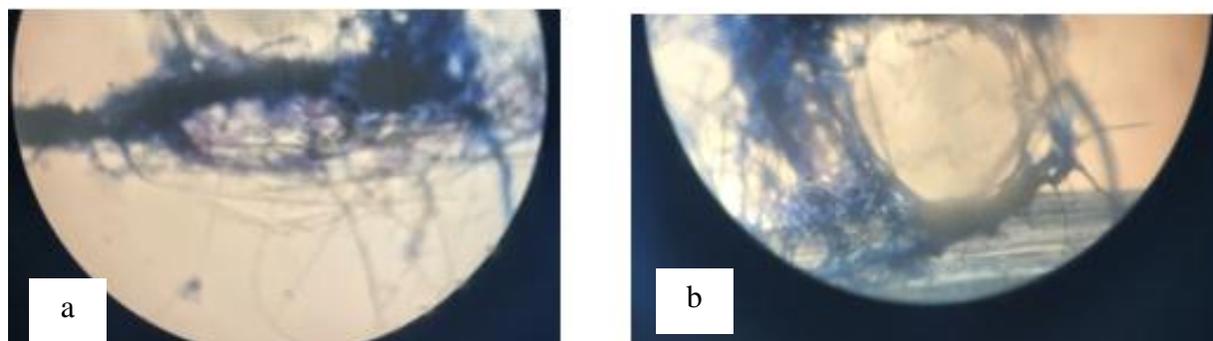
#### Percentage of root infection

The interaction between rhizobacteria and MA did not affect the percentage of root infection (Table 1). The result was similar to the previous report that reported the root infection in Jabon (*Anthocephalus cadamba* (Roxb.) Miq) was 0.71% and 10%. The infection 0.71% was obtained from rhizobacteria isolate dose 10 g and 20 g per plant and in 30 g per plant, the infection percentage was 10% [13]. In sorgum, the infection percentage was 10%-60% [14]. Low root infection percentage Jabon and sorgum if compared to potato due to in these plants, the food reserve was storage in stem so that the root exudate that was used by rhizobacteria was less.

**Table 1:-**Percentage of root infection of potato in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP) (%)

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	77	76	73
RZ1.L2.4	77	78	77
RZ1.L2.1	80	78	80
RZ2.L2.1	81	85	78
Coefficient of diversity (%) = 7.96			

According the result, the growth rate of plant developed rapidly. The factors affected the percentage of root infection due to the suitability the experimental condition and growth condition and development of rhizobacteria and MA [15]. The experimental soil condition was andisol, a fertile soil contained high organic matter and has good structure, supported the plant growth. Moreover, the type of plant also significantly influenced the rhizobacteria and MA development. MA colonized and the food reserve was stored in potato root zone. It caused the rhizobacteria and MA obtained the nutrition in growth and development [16]. The result was proven by the microscopic observation of potato root (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:-**Microscopic appearance of potato root infection : a) no rhizobacteria isolate and MA application in dose 5 g/plant. b) RZ2.L2.1 and MA application in dose 15 g/plant

Naturally, the microorganism lived in root zone of plant. The amount of them depended to type of plant. Several microorganism is mutualism related with plant. The plant provided the energy source and MA infected the plant root so that the availability of nutrients were available for plant. Higher infection of root, the plant growth was better. If host plant could support the growth and the development of plant, the dose of low of MA dose produced the similar result to the root that infected by high infection of isolates [17].

#### Density of MA spores

The highest density of MA spore in 9 WAP occurred in RZ2.L2.1 isolate and MA dose 15 g (567). The lowest density occurred in RZ1.L2.1 and dose 5 g (Table 2). The result showed that higher dose of MA that was applied, the number of early inoculum was higher so that the growth and development of potato grew well. But, in certain condition, the development of MA was not only affected by number of early inoculum, but it was affected by other microorganisms that grew together in same area. One of microbes success was their adaptation and colonizing the host plant root. If all isolates could colonize roots, the different result of plant was affected by activity of growth supporter of bacteria isolates [18]. In the assay, the factor affected the spore density of MA was other microbes that lived in potato root zone.

The MA application and rhizobacteria could increase the degree of micorrhizal colonization in plant root by increasing the P availability by rhizobacteria. But, in several bacteria such as *Paenibacillus polymyxa* B1-B4 and *Paenibacillus brasiliensis* PB177, they did not affect the micorrhiza colonization degree [19]. *Bacillus licheniformis* CECT5106 and *Bacillus pumilus* CECT5105 could not increase the degree of pine root colonization. The result described that the interaction between rhizobacteria and MA isolates was not synergistic for increasing the degree of micorrhiza colonization in plant root [18].

**Table 2:-**Density of MA spore in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP)

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	245	393	273
RZ1.L2.4	142	298	175
RZ1.L2.1	225	248	345
RZ2.L2.1	409	178	567

#### Length of root

Interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and AM affected the length of potato root. The result showed that no rhizobacteria and RZ1.L2.4 isolates with 10 g/plant of MA dose were best treatments for length of potato root. (Table 3). The result showed that the length of root was not only affected by MA dose, but it was affected by type of rhizobacteria. Certain rhizobacteria could increase length of root with addition of low MA dose. But, the length of root decreased if the dose of MA was increased [20]. The rhizobacteria and MA application did not always increase the length of root, but it increased canopy growth. The rhizosphere microorganisms that applied, roots were shorter due to they were active in addition of roots hairy and plant growth in soil surface [15].

**Table 3:-**Length of potato root in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP) (cm)

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	21.90 b B	28.40 a A	23.00 b C
RZ1.L2.4	25.30 b B	29.93 a A	27.90 a A
RZ1.L2.1	29.03 a A	20.77 c C	26.20 b B
RZ2.L2.1	20.10 b B	24.00 a B	20.77 b C
Coefficient of diversity (%) = 3.14			

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

The result showed that potato plant had different response to MA and rhizobacteria isolates. Each rhizobacteria had different ability in increasing the nutrients absorption and growth so that the different effectiveness in increasing growth in the field. Moreover, the rhizobacteria and MA application maximized root hairy growth and increased nutrients availability if compared to addition of length of root. Root of plant played a essential function for plant growth. Root development and its ability to absorb nutrient increased the growth and development of plant. Root had hairs for helping to absorb water and nutrients from soil. Longer roots produced more hairs and the water and nutrients absorption was optimal. Root development was also influenced by bacteria in rhizosphere such as *Bacillus* sp., a bacteria could dissolve phosphate so that could increase the P availability in soil and it was plant growth indicator [21].

Rhizobacteria also could increased the width of root surface per soil volume. The increasing of it was marked by addition of number of roots hairy and was not significantly affected by addition of root length [15]. Moreover, appropriate doses of MA significantly affected root length. 4 g/plant of MA dose did not still affect the root length so that the higher dose was required [22]. 7.5 g/plant of MA dose affected growth and yield of plant [23].

#### Weight of root

The interaction between rhizobacteria and MA dose affected weight of potato plant. The result showed that isolate RZ1.L2.4 and 15 g/plant of MA dose and RZ1.L2.1 and 15 g/plant of MA dose and RZ2.L2.1 and 10 g/plant and 15 g/plant of MA doses were the best treatments for weight of potato root (Table 4).

**Table 4:-**Weight of potato root in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP) (mg/cm<sup>2</sup>/week)

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	9.88 a B	9.59 a BC	7.52 b C
RZ1.L2.4	9.47 b B	8.12 b C	12.52 a A
RZ1.L2.1	13.56 a A	10.54 b B	10.17 b B
RZ2.L2.1	10.19 b B	14.52 a A	13.65 a A
Coefficient of diversity (%) = 3.14			

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

The different result of root weight was caused by each rhizobacteria produced different exudate in types, number and different interaction with MA. Basically, all isolates produced plant stimulate hormones such as indole acetic

acid (IAA), gibberellin, cytokinin and ethylene in root [24]. Presence of hormone activity that produced by rhizobacteria caused cell division process. If rhizobacteria produced much hormones, low MA dose could increase weight of root due to IAA was produced by rhizobacteria was enough for plant requirement to undergo cell division of root [25]. Rhizobacteria that produced low hormone, it needed MA much dose due to addition of MA dose increased P absorption was required by plant in hormone formation and protein for cell division of root [26].

Rhizobacteria affected the number of hormone due to each rhizobacteria produced different number of hormone. Meanwhile, MA affected number of P. Commonly, increasing of MA dose increased P availability. Certain rhizobacteria with low MA caused plant produced high root weight and in rhizobacteria application, weight of root was low eventhough dose of MA was high. Weight of plant root was significantly affected by root hairs and root hairs was significantly affected by auxin and cytokinin, ATP activity and P availability [24]. It was caused in cell division and cell differentiation required number of hormone, nutrients and enzymes. Root plant that infected by MA, the expansion of root was wider due to there was external hyphae that expanded in out of root. Hyphae that produced by MA also produces phosphatase enzyme and could catalyze phosphorus complex hydrolysis that was not available to be soluble phosphorus and available for plant [15].

### Net assimilation rate (NAR)

Net assimilation rate was the efficiency of photosynthesis in leaves in a community of cultivated plants. The highest NAR was obtained in size of leaves that were obtained sunlight. The result showed that NAR value of no rhizobacteria and RZ2.L2.1 isolates with MA dose 5 g/plant application was better than MA dose 10 and 15 g. NAR value of isolate RZ1.L2.4 with MA dose 15 g was better than 5 g and 10 g doses. The best treatments in no rhizobacteria was obtained in MA dose 5 g, rhizobacteria RZ1.L2.4 and MA dose 15 g and RZ2.L2.1 and MA dose 5 g. For MA application, NAR of MA dose 5 g and no rhizobacteria isolate was better than other treatments (Table 5).

**Table 5:-**Net assimilation rate of potato in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP) ( $\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2/\text{week}$ )

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	0.00115 a A	0.00018 b BC	0.00017 b AB
RZ1.L2.4	0.00015 b C	0.00014 b C	0.00016 a AB
RZ1.L2.1	0.0002 b C	0.0003 a A	0.0001 b B
RZ2.L2.1	0.0009 a B	0.0004 b A	0.0003 b A
Coefficient of diversity (%) = 5.01			

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

Increasing of plant age caused the NAR value and the leaves that were not obtained the sunlight, the NAR value was low. The highest value of NAR in young leaves absorbed much sunlight, highest CO<sub>2</sub> assimilation rate and distributing most of assimilate to other parts of plant [27]. Sunlight affected enzymes in plant. In appropriate temperature, plant enzymes stimulated plant growth so that the mass production and light was absorbed by leaves to undertake the photosynthesis increased. The photosynthate was produced by plant affected the plant growth so that it affected the NAR [28].

### Leaf area index (LAI)

The result showed that rhizobacteria isolate dose affected the leaf area index of potato. The result described no rhizobacteria isolate and 5 g/plant of MA dose and also isolate RZ2.L2.1 and 15 g/plant of MA dose were the best treatments for leaf area index (Table 6).

**Table 6:-**Leaf area index of potato in interaction between rhizobacteria isolates and MA application in 9 weeks after planting (WEP) (mg/cm<sup>2</sup>/week)

Rhizobacteria isolates	Dose of MA		
	5 g/plant	10 g/plant	15 g/plant
No rhizobacteria	0.03093 a B	0.00808 b D	0.01061 b C
RZ1.L2.4	0.01060 b C	0.01637 a C	0.00523 c D
RZ1.L2.1	0.0128 b C	0.0315 a A	0.0360 a A
RZ2.L2.1	0.0465 a A	0.0272 b B	0.0200 c B
Coefficient of diversity (%) = 5.29			

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

According the result, the response of isolates and MA dose was different. Each isolates of rhizobacteria had certain characteristic. These best treatments had higher ability for supporting plant leaves growth. If related to correlation between rhizobacteria and MA factor, there was positive correlation between number of leaves and LAI. The result was appropriate to definition of LAI. LAI was ratio between width of leaf and width of soil area that overgrown potato plants. One of factor that significantly affected LAI value was number of leaves. More number of leaves and wider leaves had higher LAI value [28].

Increasing of LAI positively contributed to plant growth due to leaves were main organ that played role as photosynthesis place occurred. Distribution of sunlight also played important role for increasing of LAI value. LAI value in most of plants was 0 and for few weeks later, it could be under 1.0 and furthermore increased quickly until maximum. This condition variously occurred in plants and environment [27]. Wider leaves usually was remained until mature except the leaves were disrupted by pests and diseases [7].

### Conclusion:-

The best treatment of the assay was RZ2.L2.1 and 5 g/plant of MA dose for potato growth.

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