

Original Research Article

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Fungus and Actinomycetes Diversity of Exophytic and Endophytic in Red Grape and its Inhibition Ability to Pathogen *Aspergillus niger* (Caused Rot Fruit Grape)

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ABSTRACT

Red grape rotten in storage is a major problem for consumers, moreover the fruit after offering in Pura (Bali island) cannot be stored for long. Efforts to control environmentally friendly diseases are hopeful in the future, using exophytic and endophytic fungi derived from healthy red grapes that need to be utilized. The results showed that red grape rot was caused by *Aspergillus niger*. Fungi/actinomycetes found in exophytes were 19 isolates while those of endophytes consisted of 5 isolates. Microbes found that have the highest inhibitory power by the fungus *Neurospora* sp. by 88.89%, and followed by *Streptomyces antagonensis* and *A. flavus* respectively at 83.33%. Colonies and the highest prevalence were found in *A. flavus* at 282.72 cfu/ml of water. Diversity index and index dominance of fungal/actinomycetes of 2.088 and 0.8209 means that the index of diversity is moderate and the index of dominance is high close to one reached by *A. flavus*. The results of the best antagonist inhibitory test (*Neurospora* sp.) *in vivo* showed that the concentration of suspension solution of 250 ml antagonist water spores (10⁻⁷/ml water) was the best compared to other treatments.

Keywords

Exophytes, Endophytes, Red grapes, *A. niger* and *Neurospora* sp

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Introduction

Aspergillus niger is one of the most species of fungi from the genus *Aspergillus*. Fungi that cause black mold on a variety of fruits and vegetables such as grapes, shallots, peanuts are generally foods that are easily

contaminated. This fungus is everywhere which contaminates the environment in the room. *Aspergillus niger* is generally asexual even though it has a perfect shape (reproducing sexually). Geographically this fungus is widespread with a range of habitats because it can colonize various substrates.

Generally this fungus is found as saprophytic which grows on the leaves of dead plants, stored seeds, compost and decayed vegetation. Scattered spores are often associated with organic matter and soil (Sharma, 2012).

In an effort to control red grape rot, control is sought by utilizing exophytic and endophytic fungi from healthy fruit. Endophytes are microorganisms that live within the intercellular surface of the stem, petiole, roots, leaves and fruit of the plant and their existence cannot be seen and does not cause disease to the host (Carroll, 1998; Strobel and Long, 1998; Yang *et al.*, 2011). Most endophytic fungi produce secondary metabolites such as auxin, gibberellin, etc. which help in the growth and development of host plants. Some of these compounds are antibiotics that have antifungal properties, are antibacterial and have insecticidal properties, which strongly inhibit the growth of other microbes, including plant pathogens (Dutta *et al.*, 2014). Conversely, fungi that live exophytic on the surface of plants can inhibit the growth of pathogens both antibiotic and competitive. For example the results of a study by Yadav *et al.*, (2011) tested filamentous fungi (*Trichoderma viride* and *Aspergillus flavus*) inhibiting pathogen growth (*Alternaria brassicae*). The antagonistic effect of saprophytic microbes has been reported by many researchers (Goswami and Islam, 2002; Perello *et al.*, 2006).

The aim of the study was to determine the diversity of endophytic fungi and their ability to suppress the growth of pathogens (*A. niger*) both *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

Materials and Methods

Place and time of research

The study was conducted in two places: 1) looking for sick, healthy plant specimens from

grapes on the market 2) Laboratory of Plant Diseases and Biotechnology Laboratory of the Faculty of Agriculture, Udayana University. The research was conducted from April to August 2019.

Endophytic and exophytic fungus isolation

Endophytic isolation, part of the fruit plant, is washed with sterile running water, then the part of the plant is strained with 0.525% sodium hypochlorite for 3 minutes, and 70% alcohol for 2 minutes, then rinsed with sterile water for 1 minute and then placed on PDA media (which were first given anti-bacterial antibiotics namely livoploxacin with a concentration of 0.1% (w/v).

Fungi that emerge from leaf pieces are transferred to test tubes containing PDAs to be stored and classified through morphospecies.

While exophytic fungi can be done by spraying fruit parts. The washing water is collected, then in a tube, then diambi, from a 1 ml tube it grows into a PDA which was previously filled with livoploxacin with a concentration of 0.1% (w / v).

Identification of Endophytic and Exophytic Fungi and Actinomycetes

Endophytic and exophytes fungi and actinomycetes stored next were grown in Petri dishes containing PDAs and repeated 5 times. The culture incubated in the dark room at room temperature ($\pm 27^{\circ}\text{C}$).

Isolates were identified macroscopically after 3 days of age to determine colony color and growth rate, and identify microscopically to determine septa in hyphae, spore/conidia and sporangiochore forms.

Fungal identification using the reference book Samson *et al.*, 1981; Pitt and Hocking, 1997;

Barnett and Hunter, 1998; and Indrawati *et al.*, 1999 and Ghai *et al.*, 2012).

Antagonistic inhibitory test against pathogens

Endophytic fungi and exophytes and actinomycetes which were found each were tested for their inhibitory power on the growth of pathogenic fungi with dual culture techniques (in one Petri dish grown each one pathogenic fungus flanked with two antagonistic). Its inhibitory power can be calculated as follows (Mojica-Marin *et al.*, 2008):

Inhibition ability (%) = $A-B/A \times 100$

Where: A = Diameter of *A. niger* colonies in single culture (mm)

B = Diameter of *A. niger* colonies in dual culture (mm)

Endophytic and exophytic fungi and actinomycetes prevalence

Determining the prevalence of endophytic and exophytes fungi and actinomycetes was based on the frequency of endophytic and exophytes fungi and actinomycetes found fruit per Petri dish, divided by all isolates found 100% times.

The large prevalence of isolates will determine the dominance of endophytic fungi in the healthy grape portion.

Determining the diversity and domination index

The diversity and dominance of fungal contaminants can be known by calculating the Shannon-Wiener diversity index (Odum, 1971) and microbial dominance calculated by calculating the Simpson index (Pirzan and Pong-Masak, 2008).

Index of microbial diversity

The index of microbial diversity is determined by the Shannon-Wiener diversity index, namely the formula (Odum, 1971):

$$H' = - \sum_{i=1}^s P_i \ln P_i$$

Where:

H' = the Shannon-Wiener diversity index

S = Number of genus

$P_i = n_i / N$ as proportion to type i (n_i = Total number of individuals of total microbes i, N = Total of all individuals in total n)

The criteria used to interpret the diversity of Shannon-Wiener (Ferianita-Fachrul *et al.*, 2005) are: H' value < 1, means diversity is low, H' value 1 - 3 means that diversity is moderate and H' value > 3 means diversity is classified high.

Index of dominance

The dominance index of soil microbes is calculated by calculating the Simpson index (Pirzan and Pong-Masak, 2008), with the following formula:

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^s P_i^2$$

Where:

C = Simpson index

S = Number of genus

$P_i = n_i / N$ which is the proportion of individuals of type i and all individuals ($n_i =$

total number of individuals of type i , $N =$ number of all individuals in total n).

Furthermore the species dominance index (D) can be calculated with formulations 1- C (Rad *et al.*, 2009). Criteria used to interpret the dominance of microbial species are: close to 0 = low index or the lower dominance by one microbial species or no species that dominates the other species to an extreme, close to 1 = large index or tend to be dominated by several microbial species (Pirzan and Pong -Masak, 2008).

Antagonistic test by in vivo

In vivo antagonistic tests of endophytic and exophytic microbes that have the best inhibitory power are used by dipping into the suspension of antagonistic fungal spores (each according to treatment), then dipped into the suspension of pathogenic fungal spores. The best treatments for endophytic and exophytic microbes are:

A = control (without being smeared with antagonists) + pathogens

B = antagonist treatment (250 ml aqua (10% sugar mixture) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen

C = antagonist treatment (500 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen

D = antagonistic treatment (750 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen

E = antagonist treatment (1000 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen

F = antagonist treatment (1250 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish)

G = without any treatment.

All treatments were repeated 5 times. The experiment was designed with a completely randomized design (CRD), and after analysis of variance (ANOVA) continued with the smallest real difference test (LSD) at the level of 5%. The attack parameters measured by the formulation: the fruit is divided by all the fruits observed 100%.

Results and Discussion

Pathogen identification

Based on the results of isolation on red grape rotten fruit it was found that the pathogen causing rotten fruit is *Aspergillus niger*. This result is strengthened by three times the isolation still obtained by *A. niger* as a pathogen (Figure 1).

Type of endophytic and exophytic microbes and inhibition ability on pathogen

Based on the results of the study, 19 fungal/Actinomycetes exophytic isolates and 5 endophytic fungal isolates in red wine were obtained (Table 1). Isolates which have a inhibitory power of 19 fungi/Actinomycetes exophytes are only 3 which show inhibition, each *Neurospora* sp. (Exo 3) of 88.89%, *Neurosporas*p. (Exo 5) of 77.78% and *Streptomyces otagonensis* (Esko 18) of 83.33%. Whereas in endophytes, only 3 isolates were found to have a inhibitory capacity of *A. flavus* (Endo 1, Endo 3 and Endo 4) with inhibition of 83.33% (Table 1). Means found with the best inhibitory power is in the exophytic fungus *Neurospora* sp.

Fungal/Actinomycetes colonies found in red wine from 35.34cfu / ml water to 282.72 cfu/ml water. The colony is largely dominated by *A. falvus*, followed by *Ornithinimicrobium humiphilum* (Actinomycetes) and *Neurospora*

sp., *Pseudonocardia spinose* and *Streptomyces otagonensis* (Table 1; Figure 2).

Diversity and dominance index of fungal/actinomycetes on red grape

Based on observations and analysis results it was found that the index of diversity of fungi/Actinomycetes in red wine was 2.08821, while the dominance index was 0.8209. The diversity index 2.08821 is below the maximum diversity index (6.66375), so there is a dominance in the habitat. Evidenced by the dominance index approaching the number 1 (one) that is equal to 0.8209. The colony of *A.flavus* dominates at 282.72 cfu/ml of water (Table 2).

Best antagonistic test results with pathogens in red wine *in vivo*

The results of statistical analysis showed that all treatments with the best isolate (*Neurospora* sp.) Had a very significant effect on control (treatment with pathogens) except treatment E and F which were not real with control on red wine. The mean in treatment B obtained attack intensity $65 \pm 4.47\%$, as well as treatment C was $78 \pm 5.10\%$ (Table 3; Figure 3).

Aspergillus niger is a pathogen in black onion rot (Khokhar *et al.*, 2012). This widespread fungus which is a member of ascomycotina, has been isolated from a number of habitats. *A. niger* is a fungus known as GRAS (generally recognized as safe) from US Food and Drug Administration. The dark black color shows mushrooms that have important products in the fermentation industry. But this fungus is spread throughout the world, carried by humans often through the spores and vegetative forms of *A. niger* in the air, in food and other storage products and ties the problem of suffering with allergies. *A. niger* can also produce certain mycotoxins which are

heptocarcinogenic, nephrogenic immunological. Furthermore this fungus is a causative agent for several plant rot diseases (Gautam *et al.*, 2011).

Aspergillus niger is commonly found growing saprophytically on dead leaves, stored seeds, compost mounds and other decayed vegetation.

Microscopically the conidiophore is smooth-walled, hyaline or black-colored towards the vesicle. The head is a conidia is biserial with growing brown colored phialide, often with matulae. Conidia are round to slightly round with a diameter of 3.5 - 5.0 μm , dark brown to black and rough-walled. It is known to be creative in increasing a number of pathogenicity in various plant species, which can be treated with antibiotics, chemicals and antibiosis (Sharma, 2012).

Neurospora sp. one of them is *Neurospora sitophila* which is cultivated and useful for fermenting animal feed. This fungus produces intracellular carotenoid pigments that are stored in the conium, creating an orange appearance. Carotin is extracted from spores using acetone-hexane (2: 1) (Pahlevi *et al.*, 2008). One effort to improve the quality of animal feed ingredients is fermentation using neurosporic carotenogenic molds.

This mold easily grows on aerobic fermented substrates in a short time. Fermentation with mold can reduce crude fiber, and increase crude protein and carotene substrate (Nurfaizin and Matitaputty, 2015).

The fungus and actinomycetes found in red wine are 11 types of fungus/actinomycetes, which consists of 3 types of fungus and 8 types of actinomycetes. The highest colony was found in *A. flavus* with the number of colonies in red wine of 282.72 cfu/ml of water. The diversity index and the dominance

index in the red wine diversity index reached 0.8209. The highest prevalence is held by *A. flavus*. 2.0888 while the dominance index reached

Table.1 Type of endophytic and exophytic microbes and inhibition ability in vitro on red grape

Exopjhytic microbes			Endophytic microbes		
Code	Name of microbes	Inhibition ability (%)	Code	Name of microbes	Inhibition ability (%)
Exo 1	<i>Turicella otitidis</i> (Actinomycetes)	-	Endo 1	<i>A. flavus</i>	83.33
Exo 2	<i>Streptomyces avermitilis</i> (Actinomycetes)	-	Endo 2	<i>Aspergillus</i> sp.	-
Exo 3	<i>Neurospora</i> sp.	88.89	Endo 3	<i>A. flavus</i>	83.33
Exo 4	<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	-	Endo 4	<i>A. flavus</i>	83.33
Exo 5	<i>Neurospora</i> sp.	77.78	Endo 5	<i>Aspergillus</i> sp.	-
Exo 6	<i>Bogoriella caseilytica</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 7	<i>A. flavus</i>	-			
Exi 8	<i>S. otagonensis</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 9	<i>Pseudonocardiaspinose</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 10	<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 11	<i>Ornithinimicrobium humiphilum</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 12	<i>Ornithinimicrobium humiphilum</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 13	<i>Streptomyces nobilis</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 14	<i>A. flavus</i>	-			
Exo 15	<i>A. flavus</i>	-			
Exo 16	<i>Pseudonocardia spinose</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 17	<i>Ornithinimicrobium humiphilum</i> (Actinomycetes)	-			
Exo 18	<i>Streptomyces otagonensis</i> (Actinomycetes)	83.33			
Exo 19	<i>A. flavus</i>	-			

Table.2 Analysis of diversity and dominance index in red grape

Name offungi/Actinomycetes	Colonies (cfu)ml air	pi/P	LN (pi/P)	pi/P x LN (pi/P)	(pi/P)2
<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	282.73	0.36085	-1.01929	-0.367812	0.1302139
<i>Aspergillus sp.</i>	6	0.00765	-4.87199	-0.037310	5.86471
<i>Bogoriella caseilytica</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>Neurospora sp.</i>	70.68	0.09021	-2.40558	-0.217015	0.008138
<i>Ornithinimicrobium humiphilum</i> (Actinomycetes)	106.02	0.13531	-2.00012	-0.270655	0.018311
<i>Pseudonocardia spinose</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>Pseudonocardia spinose</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>S. otagonensis</i> (Actinomycetes)	70.68	0.09021	-2.40558	-0.217015	0.008138
<i>Streptomyces nobilis</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>Streptomyces avermitilis</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>Streptomyces sp.</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3.09873	-0.139773	0.002035
<i>Turicella otitidis</i> (Actinomycetes)	35.34	0.04510	-3,09873	-0,139773	0.002035
Jumlah	783.48			-2.08822	0.179103

Ddominance index = $1 - 0.179103 = 0.8209$, H diversity index = 2.088822

Table.3 Effect of best antagonistic treatment on fruit rot disease in red wine

Treatment	Average of diseases incidence (%)	Notation	
		5%	1%
A	100±00**	a	a
B	65±4.47	c	b
C	78±5.10	b	bc
D	87±4.00	b	abc
E	92±2.45	a	ac
F	95±4.47	a	ac
G	24±4.90	d	d

**The same letter in the same column means that it is not significantly different in the LSD test of 5% and 1%

Fig.1 Pathogen identification. Rotten fruit (arrow) taken from the Batubulan market (A), (B) the isolation results are five pieces and repeated 3 times, and (C) microscopic pathogen observation (*Aspergillus niger*)



Fig.2 Number of fungal/Actinomycetes colonies found in red wine

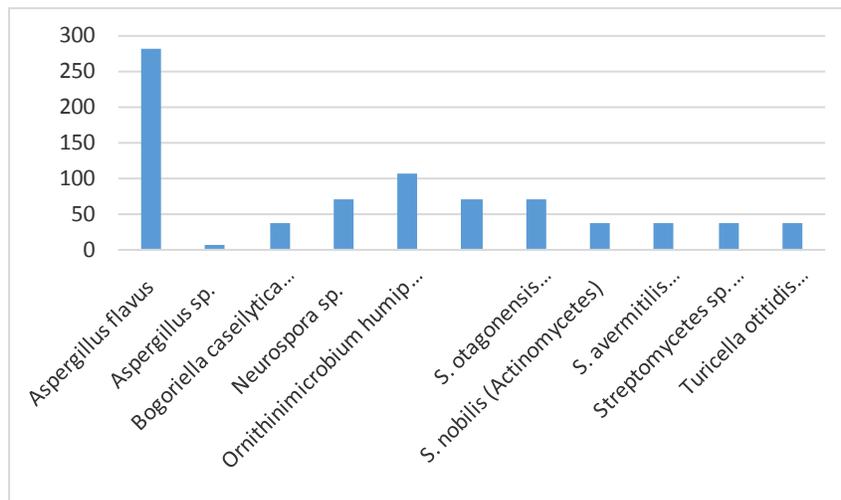
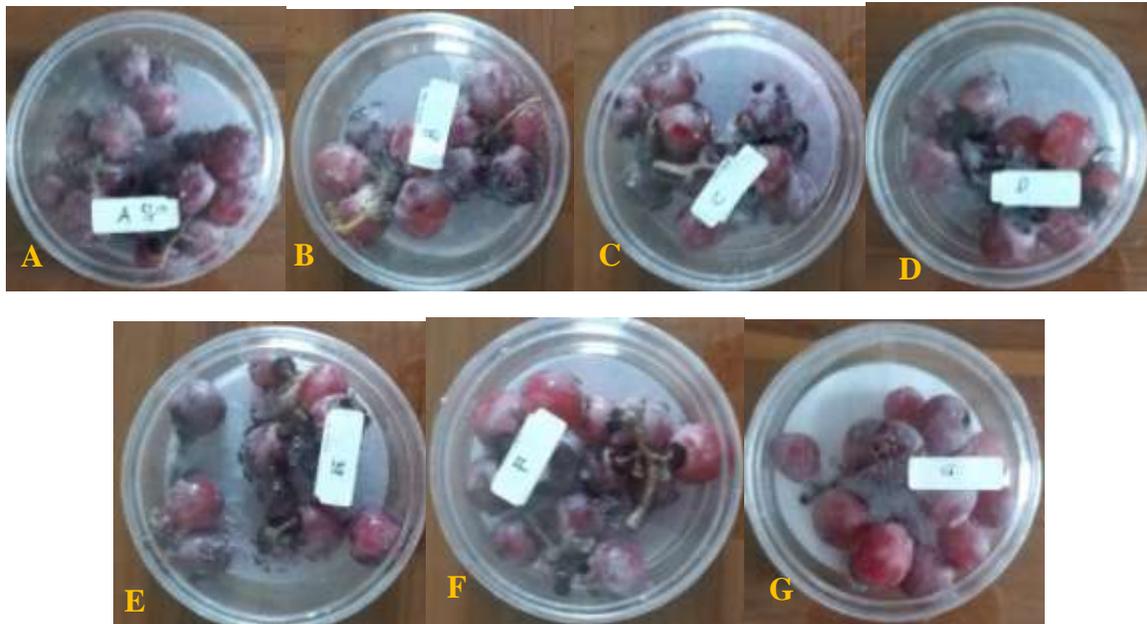


Fig.3 Effect of the best antagonistic treatment (*Neurospora* sp.) on the pathogenic rot of red grapes (*Aspergillus niger*) (Where: A = control (without being smeared with antagonists) + pathogens, B = antagonist treatment (250 ml aqua (10% sugar mixture) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen, C = antagonist treatment (500 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen, D = antagonistic treatment (750 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen, E = antagonist treatment (1000 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish) + pathogen, F = antagonist treatment (1250 ml aqua (10% sugar solution) + spore suspension 1 Petri dish), and G = without any treatment)



In vitro inhibitory test results on pathogens in red wine showed that exophytic and endophytic fungi that best inhibit pathogens are *Neurospora* sp. each at 88.89%. In vivo test results of the best antagonistic fungal inhibition against pathogens have a very significant effect compared to controls. The best treatment was obtained from the treatment by adding an antagonistic spore suspension of 250 ml of water, compared to other treatments.

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