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PERFORMANCE OF SOMATIC EMBRYOGENESIS DEVELOPMENT UNDER DIFFERENT 2.4-D AND COCONUT WATER CONCENTRATION IN SUGARCANE VAR. BULULAWANG

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Abstract :

Mass propagation technology through somatic embryogenesis has become an alternative for producing sugarcane seedlings rapidly. Application of proper plant growth regulator and concentration contribute to support somatic embryogenesis development. This study applied the combination of liquid and solid culture during proliferation stage to promote cell dispersion of embryogenic callus, rapid embryo somatic production, and improve regeneration potency of somatic embryo. Application of 2.4-D and coconut water during proliferation may expected as proper combination for accelerating somatic embryo development and regeneration. Development of somatic embryogenesis in sugarcane var. Bululawang during proliferation were described in this study. Embryogenic callus from induction media were transferred to proliferation media containing MS Basal + vitamin supplemented with sucrose different level of 2.4-D (1 mg l^{-1} , 2 mg l^{-1} , 3 mg l^{-1} , 4 mg l^{-1}) and coconut water (0% and 5%) to enhance somatic embryo formation during proliferation. Result showed that low concentration of 2.4-D induced optimum somatic embryogenesis development in proliferation and regeneration. Concentration of single 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} without coconut water induced rapid development of scutellar and coleoptilar during proliferation and resulted in better shoot regeneration. In other way, 4 mg l^{-1} of 2.4-D concentration affected to inhibit scutellar and coleoptilar formed as the result of failure callus differentiation.

Keywords: Proliferation; somatic embryo, scutellar; coleoptilar, regeneration.

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1. Introduction

Sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum*. L) is the one of important sources for sugar production in the world. Indonesia is one of the Asian-sugar producing countries contribute to global sugar production. However, Indonesia including the third largest consumer at once a major importer of sugar in the world [1]. High demand of sugar consumption in the world require effort to sustain sugarcane productivity.

Bululawang (BL) is known as one of superior sugarcane variety in Indonesia [2][3]. Increasing Bululawang productivity require mass production of seedling to maintain production stability. Tissue culture is considered as propagation

technique for producing sugarcane seedling in large scale. Seedling propagation through somatic embryogenesis in sugarcane has become a concern to be an alternative to increase seedling stock. Somatic embryogenesis is considered due to its potential to produce propagules in shorter period [4]. Somatic embryogenesis method already widely used for genetic transformation [5][6], producing virus free sugarcane [7], and developing synthetic seed [8][9].

Somatic embryogenesis produces bipolar structure of somatic embryo for accelerating seedling germination without gamet fusion process. There are particular stages during somatic embryogenesis development, such as: pro-embryonic mas (PEM) development, maturation of somatic embryo, and re-

generation [10]. Optimal induction of somatic embryogenesis is obtained from young leaf of sugarcane [11] that containing apical meristem region [12]. Spindle leaf is widely used for somatic embryogenesis induction in sugarcane. High production of embryogenic callus from meristematic tissue is required for somatic embryogenesis development.

Seedling propagation via somatic embryogenesis pathway are commonly utilize solid media for induction, proliferation, and regeneration stage. Shifting solid media to liquid media could be used for regenerating somatic embryo [13]. This study applied the combination of liquid and solid culture during proliferation stage. Liquid culture enable to promote cell dispersion of embryogenic callus, rapid embryo somatic production, and improve regeneration potency of somatic embryo [14]. Composition of media also determine production of somatic embryo in sugarcane [15] and plant genotype [16]. Auxin is the most commonly hormone use for inducing callus during somatic embryogenesis, particularly 2,4-D [17][18]. Application of 2,4-D on induction media support cell division and differentiation including callus embryogenic production [19]. The use of natural cytokinin such as coconut water (CW) also common applied in tissue culture. CW is effective for improving culture growth and somatic embryo induction [20]. CW also induce globular formation and increase embryogenic callus biomass [21].

Addition of 2,4-D and CW combination may result better development and proliferation of embryogenic callus in Bululawang sugarcane variety. Application of both plant growth regulator during proliferation is limited. Application of 2,4-D and coconut water during proliferation may expected as proper combination for accelerating somatic embryo development and regeneration. The objective of this study was to describe somatic embryogenesis stage and regeneration of sugarcane var. Bululawang under different 2,4-D and coconut water concentration.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Callus Induction

The experiment was conducted at the *Center for Development of Advanced Sciences and Technology* (CDAST) Laboratory, University of Jember from January to June 2016. Spindle leaves from 4-6 months old

sugarcane var. Bululawang collected from field were washed in tap water. Sterilization method was employed to avoid contamination by spraying explant using alcohol 70% and also burned in laminar air flow (LAF) during preparation. Sterilized spindle leaves were discarded until remained about 5 layers with 2-3 cm diameter and chopped in 2-3 mm thickness before transferring into induction media. Induction media used containing MS (Murashige dan Skoog) Basal + vitamin supplemented with 4 mg⁻¹ of 2,4-D, sucrose 30 g⁻¹, agar 11 g⁻¹, and casein hydrolysate 300 mg⁻¹. Spindle leaf explants were incubated under dark condition and room temperature about 23-25°C for 6 weeks. Explants were subcultured after 3-4 weeks to induced embryogenic callus. Callus formation including Pro Embryo Mass (PEM) structure was observed weekly by macroscopic and microscopic observation using a stereo microscope (*Leica EZ4HD*).

2.2 Proliferation

Callus were transferred to proliferation media containing MS Basal + vitamin supplemented with sucrose 30 g⁻¹, agar 11 g⁻¹, casein hydrolysate 300 mg⁻¹ and prolin 500 mg⁻¹. Different level of 2,4-D (1 mg⁻¹, 2 mg⁻¹, 3 mg⁻¹, 4 mg⁻¹) and coconut water (0% and 5%) were used to induce somatic embryogenesis. Combination of liquid and solid culture media were used during proliferation. Embryogenic callus were incubated on liquid media to disperse callus by shaking on orbital shaker on 100 rpm under light condition. After 7 days callus were transferred to solid media to accelerate somatic embryo formation. Callus structure and somatic embryogenesis stages including globular, scutellar, and coleoptilar were observed by macroscopic and microscopic observation using a stereo microscope (*Leica EZ4HD*).

2.3 Regeneration of somatic embryo

Coleoptilar from proliferation stage were subcultured to regeneration media containing MS Basal + vitamin, 2 mg⁻¹ glycine, sucrose 30 g⁻¹, and agar 11 g⁻¹. Coleoptilar were growth on 16h light and 8h dark under temperature room 23-25°C until coleoptilar developed into shoot. Day of shoot initiation and shoot growth were recorded until after 4 week on regeneration media.

3. Results and Discussion

Spindle leaf explants were incubated in media containing MS + 2,4-D 4 mg⁻¹ + 300 mg⁻¹ casein hydrolysate under dark condition to initiate callus formation. Figure 1 showed the development process of callus induction during 6 weeks incubation. Before callus initiation, explants were performed swollen structure after 1-2 weeks incubation. This appearance indicated the occurrence of early cell division. Initiation of Pro Embryo Mass (PEM) structure was observed after two weeks incubation. Surface of spindle leaf displayed callus structure after 4

weeks and developed into embryogenic structure in 6 weeks (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Callus induction from spindle leaf explant of sugarcane var. Bululawang at different age a) 1 week; b) 2 weeks; c) 4 weeks; d) 6 weeks.

Callus consisted of two characteristic, embryogenic and non embryogenic. Embryogenic callus performed whitish to yellow in colour, glossy, dry, and friable. This type of callus had high potential to regenerate into somatic embryo. Callus with brown in colour, rounded in shape, wet, and containing small nucleus, were eliminated as non embryogenic callus. These type of callus had less ability to promote somatic embryo development and differentiation. Previous study reported non embryogenic did not showed somatic embryo formation due to the involvement of metabolic activity such as phenolic compound. The presence of phenolic compound contributed to inhibit somatic embryo development [22][23].

Developmental pathway of somatic embryogenesis involved several process including cell dedifferentiation, activate cell division, and alteration of physiology, metabolism, and gene expression [24]. Somatic embryo development initiate from competent region of embryogenic callus derived from protodermal cells with high protein accumulation [25]. Embryogenic callus displayed small with a dense cytoplasm and obvious nucleus on outer layer and large cell with large vacuola in the inner layer of embryogenic callus [26]. These callus characteristics were selected for next proliferation stage.

Many studies reported the use of 3 mg l^{-1} [27][28] and 4 mg l^{-1} of 2.4-D [29][30] for optimum callus induction. High concentration of auxin 2.4-D triggered rapid cell division and differentiation to promote somatic cell production [31]. Proliferation is the important stage for multiplying and developing somatic embryo. In this research, embryogenic callus from induction media were transferred into liquid media to induce callus dispersion. Inducing callus

dispersion by shaking on orbital shaker could split callus clumps into single cell. Incubation of embryonic cell in liquid culture could induce active division and growth of cells [32]. However, incubation of somatic embryo only applied for 7 days. The elongation of somatic embryo during proliferation required solid media to accelerate somatic embryo formation.

Proper composition of media for proliferation determine the quality and quantity of somatic embryo. In this study, different 2.4-D and coconut water concentration were applied for proliferation. Results showed that selection of low 2.4-D concentration was the key for proliferation stage, whereas coconut water did not affected to accelerate proliferation in sugarcane Bululawang variety.

Table 1. Time of initiation scutelar, coleoptilar, and shoot of sugarcane.

Time of initiation (day)				
2.4-D (mg l^{-1})	CW (%)	Scutelar	Coleoptilar	Shoot
1	0	13.5	28.5	7
	5	14	42	9
2	0	28	42	27.5
	5	28.5	42	15
3	0	25	44	17.5
	5	29	45	19
4	0	NA	NA	NA
	5	NA	NA	NA

Values are mean consisted of two replications. NA: Not available.

During early proliferation stage, the appearance of globular stage generally emerged after 7 days in all treatments. Scutelar and coleoptilar development was varied depended on 2.4-D and coconut water concentration. Data showed that concentration of 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} induced rapid development of scutelar and coleoptilar (Table 1). However, the application of coconut water combined with $2.4\text{-D } 1 \text{ mg l}^{-1}$ induced longer time for coleoptilar formation than single of 2.4-D. Higher 2.4-D concentration than 1 mg l^{-1} extended time initiation of scutelar, coleoptil, and resulted lower regeneration potential. Even, application of 4 mg l^{-1} 2.4-D did not perform somatic embryo development. This study revealed that 1 mg l^{-1} 2.4-D was the optimum concentration to induced better proliferation stage. The extend time of scutelar initiation by applying high 2.4-D concentration expected trigger continued cell division rather than cell elongation. Even, elevated level of 2.4-D induced the

development of non-embryogenic callus. During proliferation the growth of cell directed to differentiation phase. Nodular structure during globular stage contained bipolar structure with meristematic region. This meristematic region represented as competent area for scutellar formation. In the late of scutellum stage, this structure performed heart shape and green spot for early shoot initiation. Lower auxin concentration applied during proliferation stage, promote somatic cell to produce important substance for globular phase to develop into somatic embryogenesis stages such as scutellar and coleoptilar resulted in better plant regeneration [30].

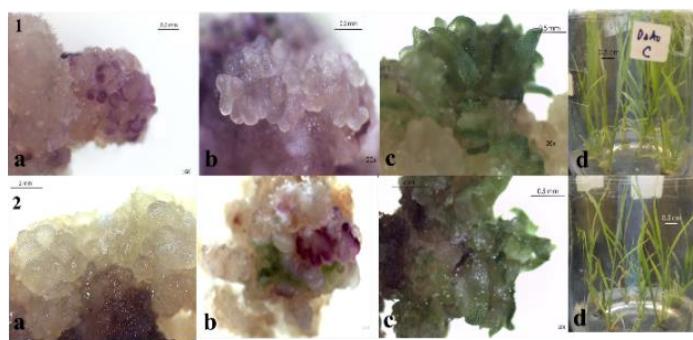


Figure 2. Somatic embryogenesis stages of sugarcane var. Bululawang on media containing 1) 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} + 0 % coconut water; 2) 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} + 5 % coconut water; a) Globular; b) Scutelar; c) Coleoptilar; d) planlet regeneration at 4 weeks after planting.

Development of scutellar under proper concentration required about two weeks followed by four weeks incubation for coleoptilar development. Coleoptilar clumps from preferable callus resulted in good shoot initiation during regeneration. Proper composition of media for proliferation determine the quality and quantity of somatic embryo. In this study, different 2.4-D and coconut water concentration were applied for proliferation.

Figure 2 was the performance of somatic embryo development of sugarcane under low 2.4-D concentration. Application of 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} without application of CW resulted better plant regeneration than combination with 5% CW. Callus clumps containing scutellar stage on media 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} + 5 % coconut water appeared green spot early than single 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} . However, coleoptilar and shoot growth during regeneration was better in single 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} .

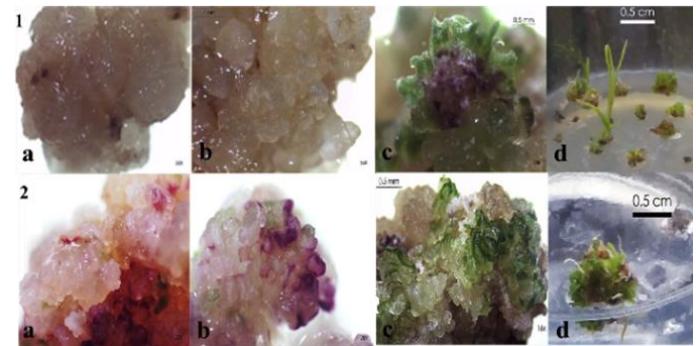


Figure 3. Somatic embryogenesis stages of sugarcane var. Bululawang on media containing 1) 2.4-D 2 mg l^{-1} + 0 % coconut water; 2) 2.4-D 2 mg l^{-1} + 5 % coconut water; a) Globular; b) Scutelar; c) Coleoptilar; d) planlet regeneration at 4 weeks after planting.

Different response was displayed on callus growth under 2 mg l^{-1} of 2.4-D with and without CW application. Globular and scutelar performed wet structure, indicating delayed cell differentiation to develop into scutelar. Less scutelar development also performed (Figure 3). Scutellar formed from callus was not optimal and resulted in retarded shoot regeneration as well as 3 mg l^{-1} 2.4-D application (Figure 4). Shoot initiation performed better than 2 mg l^{-1} 2.4-D application, however shoot regeneration resulted in ununiform and albino explant.

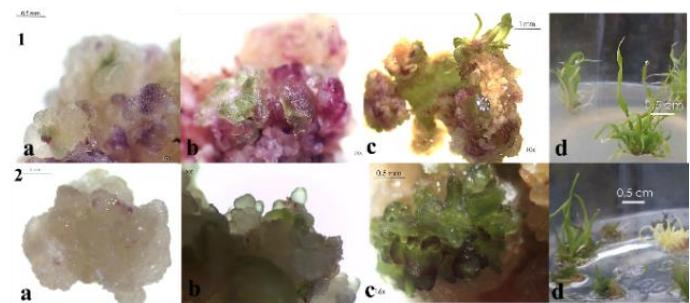


Figure 4. Somatic embryogenesis stages of sugarcane var. Bululawang on media containing 1) 2.4-D 3 mg l^{-1} + 0 % coconut water; 2) 2.4-D 3 mg l^{-1} + 5 % coconut water; a) Globular; b) Scutelar; c) Coleoptilar; d) planlet regeneration at 4 weeks after planting.

General purpose of 2.4-D application during induction are for cell division and differentiation. Higher 2.4-D concentration up to 1 mg l^{-1} during proliferation only promote continuous cell division and inhibit importance pathway to induce cell differentiation into somatic embryo stages (Figure 5). No number of scutellar and coleoptilar formed under 4 mg l^{-1} 2.4-D indicated as the result of failure callus differentiation. There was no green spot appeared in

callus surface. Green spot expected as competence spot for indicating shoot formation [33].

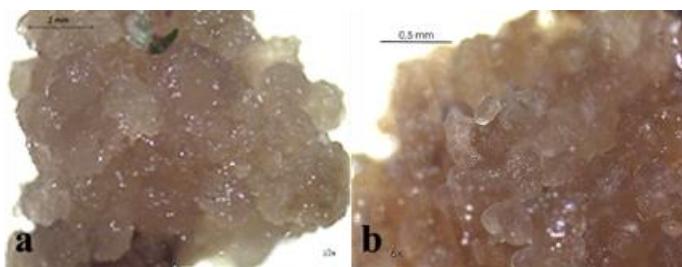


Figure 5. Media containing a) $2.4\text{-D } 4 \text{ mg l}^{-1} + 0 \%$ coconut water; b) $2.4\text{-D } 4 \text{ mg l}^{-1} + 5 \%$ coconut water did not induce somatic embryogenesis formation.

4. Conclusions

Development of somatic embryogenesis in proliferation required low concentration of 2.4-D to induce better shoot. Concentration of single 2.4-D 1 mg l^{-1} without coconut water induced rapid development of scutellar and coleoptilar during proliferation and resulted in better shoot regeneration. In other way, 4 mg l^{-1} of 2.4-D concentration affected to inhibit scutellar and coleoptilar formed as the result of failure callus differentiation.

5. Acknowledgement

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