

Microbial antagonism of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *Bacillus subtilis* to overcome *Ralstonia solanacearum* in potato seed production with an aeroponic system in Indonesia

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Abstract	<p>Potato (<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> L.) seed production using the aeroponic system has been widely implemented in Indonesia. However, aeroponic systems in tropical areas such as Indonesia faced obstacles in the form of high wilt attacks caused by the bacteria <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> . This research aimed to control <i>R. solanacearum</i> wilt disease in an aeroponic system using various microbes. The research was carried out from September 2022 to January 2023. This research consisted of four stages, namely exploration and isolation of microorganisms, identification of microbial antagonism, testing of in vitro potential microbial antagonism and testing of selected microbial antagonism in the aeroponic system. The nutrients used in the aeroponic system contained <i>R. solanacearum</i> with a concentration of 10⁴ CFU mL⁻¹ , while the concentration of the microbial solution used was 10⁸ CFU mL⁻¹ . <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> was consistently the best microbe both in vitro and in aerponics, whereas <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> could only overcome wilt in vitro and could not overcome wilt in aeroponic system. <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> required 5 min soaking time and could increase wilt with increasing soaking time. The consortium between <i>B. subtilis</i> and <i>P. fluorescens</i> with 10 min soaking time could overcome wilt by 85% and increase the number of tubers and tuber weight by 79% and 85%, respectively, so this prospective microbial consortium could be applied to aeroponic systems environmentally friendly in tropical areas with high <i>R. solanacearum</i> opportunities.</p>
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