DNA barcoding of the tidal swamp rice (*Oryza sativa*) landraces from South Kalimantan, Indonesia

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Abstract. *Mursyidin DH, Nazari YA, Badruzsaufari, Masmitra MRD. 2021. DNA barcoding of the tidal swamp rice (Oryza sativa) landraces from South Kalimantan, Indonesia. Biodiversitas 22: 1593-1599.* The tidal swamp rice (*Oryza sativa L.*) landraces of the South Kalimantan, Indonesia, has been known for hundred years ago with a better adaptation to the local conditions, such as acidity, salinity, and metals contamination. However, the genetic insight of these landraces has not fully understood. Here, the *rbcL* region of tidal swamp rice from this region was successfully sequenced, aligned, analyzed, and deposited into the GenBank with accession numbers of MT818188–MT818201. The multiple alignments of these sequences showing a barcoding motif with eight mutation or polymorphic sites with both substitutions (transition-transversion) and indels (insertion-deletion). Based on this marker, the tidal swamp rice has a low genetic diversity, only 0.086. However, the UPGMA and maximum likelihood (ML) analyses revealed that this germplasm was grouped into five and twoclusters or clades, respectively. In this case, *Bayar Putih* is closely related to *Siam Panangah* and farthest from *Lemo*. This information might help to develop conservation and breeding programs of the tidal swamp rice landraces in the future.

Keywords: Breeding program, DNA barcoding, genetic diversity, rice, tidal swamp area

INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is the main food crop for more than half of the world population (Ajala and Gana 2015, Sharif et al. 2014). This plant becomes an essential crop for the direct intake of calorie needs, around 20%, for the population (Panesar and Kaur 2016). So it is not surprising if the rice has been distributed and cultivated in more than 100 countries, except Antarctica (Ismail 2013, Wei and Huang 2019). Even today, increasing food crop production, especially rice, continues to have endeavored in the face of a surge in world population that has increased significantly (Lenaerts et al. 2019).

Tidal swamps are potential land for rice cultivation and increasing food crop production for the future (Sinaga et al. 2014). While these lands have limitations, such as lack of nutrients, high content of iron and other metals, and salinity (Mawardi et al. 2020), it is possible to achieve high food crop production through proper technology applications. In Asia, there is still around 20.1 million ha of tidal swamps that suitable for this purpose (Kirwan and Megonigal 2013). Partially in Indonesia, there is at least 10 million ha of this land located mainly in Sumatra and Kalimantan with unique characteristics. According to Mawardi et al. (2020), tidal swamps are classifying into four categorized based on soil types, namely fluvial deposits, marine sediments, organic and aeolian soils, acid sulfate, and acid sulfate potential soils.

In general, there are some traditional rice cultivars

(referred to as 'tidal swamp rice') with important genetic characteristics found from this area (Mursyidin and Khairullah 2020). While this germplasm still has generally low production, only two tonnes per ha, some cultivars show better adaptation to the local condition (Sinaga et al. 2014). For example, the 'Datu' cultivar, originating from South Kalimantan, Indonesia, produces many panicles and grains and is relatively resistant to salinity. Other cultivars from the same region, such as 'Bayar' and 'Siam Unus', show a better adaptation to acidity and metal contamination (Mursyidin et al. 2017). Hence, tidal swamp rice is a potential source of many useful genes for future rice breeding programs (Bhandari et al. 2017).

However, the genetic insight of the local rice germplasm of these areas is not generally understood. Partially in the tidal swamp areas of South Kalimantan, Indonesia, the local rice germplasm has been limited to characterized morphologically, both in macro and microstructure (Mursyidin et al. 2018a, 2019, Mursyidin and Khairullah 2020). While these markers are essential in evaluating rice germplasm, they were strongly influenced by the environmental factors (Nadeem et al. 2018). Besides, phenotypic traits have limitations such as low polymorphism and heritability, late expression, and timeconsuming to employ (Anumalla et al. 2015).

Several molecular markers have applicated to characterized the local rice germplasm, such as RAPD or random amplified polymorphic DNA (Arshad et al. 2011), AFLP or amplified fragment length polymorphism (Mokuwa et al. 2014, Rajkumar et al. 2011), and SSR or microsatellite (Das et al. 2013, Salgotra et al. 2015, Sutoro et al. 2015). However, these markers have also shown certain limitations, such as relatively inconsistent and subjective. Nowadays, DNA barcoding markers provide several advantages to characterized plant germplasm, such as easy to amplify, sequence, and align in most plants (Hollingsworth et al. 2011). Furthermore, this marker shows a high primer universality and generates high sequence quality or unambiguous alignment output (Dong et al. 2013). The Consortium for the Barcode of Life or CBOL (2009) proposed several DNA barcoding markers to determine plant germplasm, one of which is *rbcL*.

This study aims to determine the genetic diversity and relationship of the tidal swamp rice indigenously from South Kalimantan, Indonesia, using a DNA barcoding marker, namely *rbcL*. According to de Melo Moura et al. (2019), this marker shows universality, a high PCR amplification success, and relatively high overall sequence quality, as well as a high discriminatory power between Angiosperms. Besides, this marker has advantages over others, especially being able to distinguish germplasm that has a very close genetic relationship, like rice (Wattoo et al. 2016). So, it is useful in plant population genetics and systematics studies. Further, these results are beneficial in supporting the rice breeding efforts, globally and locally.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant materials

A total of 14 samples of tidal swamp rice comprise 13 from the South Kalimantan's tidal swamp areas (Figure 1). One from South Sumatra, Indonesia (an outgroup), was used in this study. The list of all rice samples and their origin is presented in Table 1.

Sample preparation

Seeds of each rice landrace were germinated after being soaked in a fungicide solution and rinsed thoroughly in warm water (30–35 °C). Seeds then were transplanted into pots, 30 cm in diameter and 20 cm in height, with soil collected from a paddy field. All rice samples were planted and maintained with a standard agronomic procedure, described by Sato and Uphoff (2007), in Indonesian Swamps of Agricultural Research Institute, Banjarbaru, South Kalimantan, Indonesia. Leaf samples of each rice landrace at a seedling stage were collected for DNA assay.



Figure 1. Map of South Kalimantan, Indonesia, showing the sampling locations (circle marked) where the tidal swamp rice collected

 Table 1. List of the tidal swamp rice landraces used in this study and their origin

Landrace	Origin (District/Province)
Bayar Putih	Gambut, Banjar, South Kalimantan
Datu	Tabunganen, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Lakatan Hirang	Barambai, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Lemo	Alalak, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Pandak Tinggi	Barambai, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Randah Pandang	Tamban, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Serai	Alalak, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Serai Rampak*	South Sumatra
Siam Berandal	Gambut, Banjar, South Kalimantan
Siam Panangah	Gambut, Banjar, South Kalimantan
Siam Perak Ganal	Anjir Pasar, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Siam Puntal	Kertak Hanyar, Banjar, South Kalimantan
Siam Sabar	Gambut, Banjar, South Kalimantan
Unus Organik	Anjir Pasar, Barito Kuala, South Kalimantan
Note: *an outgroup	

DNA assay

DNA was isolated from young leaves of all the rice samples using the DNAZol@Direct kit, following the manufacturer's protocol (Molecular Research Center Inc., USA). The DNA was then quantified using a UV-VIS spectrophotometer (NanoVue, GE Healthcare, UK) and amplified by a DNA barcoding marker, *rbcL* (Table 2).

PCR reaction was carried out in the total volume of 25 μL (consisting of 20 ng genomic DNA (2 μL), 0.2 μmol for each primer (1 µL), and 22 µL of PCR mix (MyTaq HS Red Mix, Bioline, UK). This reaction was employed following the Gholave et al. (2017) procedure, with an initial denaturation at 94°C for 5 min; followed by 35 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 30 sec, annealing at 48°C for 30 sec, and extension at 72°C for 45 sec; and a final extension at 72°C for 7 min. The amplified DNA fragments were then separated by 2% agarose gel electrophoresis with a 1X TBE buffer solution, stained with a DNA dye (GelRed, Biotium Inc., USA), and observed on UV transilluminator light, as well as documented using a digital camera. DNA fragments that were successfully amplified were then sent to 1st Base Ltd., Malaysia, for purification and sequencing bidirectional using the Sanger method. All sequences were deposited in GenBank with accession numbers of MT818188-MT818201.

Data analysis

To obtain a consensus sequence, nucleotide sequences of the tidal swamp rice were aligned and refined manually using the Molecular Evolutionary Genetics Analysis (MEGA-X) ver. 10.1 software (Kumar et al. 2018). The homology of this consensus was traced initially using the

Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) software (Kumar et al. 2018), which included in the GenBank website (https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi). All sequences were then aligned using Multalin software (Corpet 1988). The genetic diversity and relationship of the rice germplasm were analyzed using the MEGA-X software (Kumar et al. 2018). The UPGMA and maximum likelihood (ML) methods were chosen to reconstruct genetic relationships. The topological robustness of the relationships was then evaluated by the bootstrap analysis with 1000 replicates (Lemey et al. 2009).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The *rbc*L sequence of tidal swamp rice and its genetic diversity

The *rbc*L sequence of the tidal swamp rice from South Kalimantan, Indonesia, has unique characteristics. Following Figure 2 and Table 3, these sequences have different nucleotide lengths, ranging from 606-609 bp. In this case, the most extended nucleotide (609 bp) was shown by *Lemo* and *Serai Rampak* (outgroup), whereas the shortest (606 bp) by *Pandak Tinggi*. According to Clegg (1993), the complete sequence of this gene approximately 1400 nucleotides in length, and it varies slightly among different flowering plant genera. In other words, this gene has high homology among different plant genera (Dong et al. 2013). Singh and Banerjee (2018) reported that this gene has an intergenic spacer with 600-800 nucleotides.

Following Figure 2 and Table 3, these sequences also show some mutational evens, both indels (insertiondeletion) and substitutions (transition-transversion). In general, eight mutations or polymorphic sites are recorded for these sequences (Table 3). The deletion shows in the 13^{th} and 563^{rd} position of the *rbcL* sequence, whereas the insertion shows in the 548^{th} , 553^{rd} , 563^{rd} , and 569^{th} . Furthermore, the transversion showed in the 567^{th} and 575^{th} , and transition in 569^{th} (Table 4).

 Table 3. Genetic information of *rbcL* sequences of tidal swamp

 rice from the South Kalimantan, Indonesia

Parameter	rbcL		
Range of sequence length (bp)	605-609		
Number of polymorphic sites (S)	8		
Bayesian information criterion (BIC)	2014.448		
Akaike information criterion (AICc)	1831.365		
Maximum likelihood value (InL)	-889.600		
Transition/transversion bias value (R)	0.67		
GC content (%)	43.67		
Nucleotide diversity (π %)	0.086		

Table 2. A pair of primers used in the study (Gholave et al. 2017)

Region	Position	Sequence (5'-3')	Annealing (°C)	Target (bp)	
rbcL	Forward	ATGTCACCACAAACAGAGACTAAAGC	19	600	
	Reverse	GTAAAATCAAGTCCACCRCG	48		

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Figure 2. Multiple alignment of the *rbcL* sequence of tidal swamp rice and their mutational evens (closed rectangle)

According to Clegg (1993), these mutations are sometimes found in most grasses and other plant species, such as the Orchidales, Liliales, Bromeliales, and Arecales, with a low mutation rate. CBOL (2009) reported that the genus *Oryza* has partial nucleotide sequences of the gene with a low mutation rate. In another study, however, the *rbcL* exhibited a high efficiency of inter/intrageneric levels, particularly in Cupressaceae, Cornaceae, Ericaceae, Graniaceae (Singh and Banerjee 2018). Dong et al. (2013) also reported that the *rbcL* gene represents the differences in mode and tempo of molecular evolution, whether in Angiosperm, monocotyledons, and Gramineae.

Referred to Frankham et al. (2004), these mutational evens contributed to genetic diversity. In this study, the tidal swamp rice landraces of South Kalimantan, Indonesia, showed a relatively low genetic diversity, only 0.086 (Table 3). Following Furlan et al. (2012), low level of genetic diversity caused by reductions in population size and absence of gene flow. The best feature of these two factors in rice described by Thomas et al. (2017) and Wang et al. (2017).

Landrace	Nucleotide Position							
	13 ^a	548 ^b	553 ^b	563 ^b	567°	568 ^d	569 ^b	575°
Lakatan Hirang	С	-	-	-	А	G	-	G
Siam Berandal	С	-	-	-	А	G	-	G
Pandak Tinggi	С	-	-	-	А	G	-	G
Randah Pandang	С	-	-	-	А	G	-	G
Unus Organik	С	-	-	-	А	G	-	G
Siam Sabar	С	С	-	-	А	G	-	G
Lemo	С	-	-	Т	А	G	G	Т
Serai	С	-	-	Т	А	G	-	G
Siam Perak Ganal	С	-	-	Т	А	G	-	G
Serai Rampak*	-	С	G	Т	Т	А	G	G
Concensus	С	-	-	Т	А	G	-	G

Note. * An outgroup, ^a. deletion, ^b. insertion, ^c. substitution-transversion, ^d. substitution-transition.

However, compared to other studies using a similar marker, this germplasm showed higher genetic diversity than *Elymus* and *Pseudoroegneria*, for example, with genetic diversity of 0.034 and 0.074, respectively (Dong et al. 2013). Using the IGS and *trn*L-F markers, Mursyidin et al. (2018b) reported that the tidal swamp rice is also showed a high nucleotide diversity of 0.61 and 0.58, respectively.

In brief, information on genetic diversity is valuable in supporting the rice conservation and breeding programs in the future (Acquaah 2012). In this case, genetic diversity serves to provide a baseline population for natural selection and an integral part of evolution (Nei 2007). In other words, it was required for populations to adapt to the environmental changes (Frankham et al. 2004). Conversely, the mutation is an initial step in the formation of a baseline population and subsequent increase in population genetic diversity (Hodge 2010, Ripley 2013).

Phylogenetic relationships

The phylogenetic analysis revealed that the tidal swamp rice from South Kalimantan, Indonesia has a unique relationship. In general, the germplasms were separated into five clusters by UPGMA and two clades via ML (Figure 3). Interestingly, both analyses implicated the separation of tidal swamp rice from South Kalimantan to Sumatra (outgroup). Based on UPGMA analysis (Figure 3A), the *Lemo* and *Siam Puntal* cultivars are divided separately into groups III and IV. Meanwhile, *Siam Putih* and *Siam Panangah* belong to a similar group (II). In this case, the first cluster (I) is the group with the largest cultivar members.

Based on the ML analysis (Figure 3B), all tidal swamp rice landraces from this region are incorporate into clade I. However, *Bayar Putih, Siam Puntal*, and *Lemo* show apomorphy characters. It means, although the three landraces are in the same clade as the other eight landraces of South Kalimantan (ingroup), they have a more advanced level of evolution. In this study, *Serai Rampak* (outgroup) showed plesiomorphic characters because these landrace's position was outside the clade. According to Wilberg (2015), outgroup sampling is of primary importance in phylogenetic analyses because it can affect ingroup relationships and polarizing characters.

Following UPGMA, *Bayar Putih* is closely related to *Siam Panangah* and farthest from *Lemo*. Meanwhile, the previous study by Mursyidin et al. (2018b) revealed that *Bayar Putih* has the closest relationship with *Siam Mutiara* and farthest to *Lakatan Pacar*. In-plant breeding, the farthest genetic groups are considered to produce high or wide genetic diversity. Conversely, the crossing of parents with close genetic relationships tends to avoid because it can produce offsprings with low or narrow genetic diversity, known as inbreeding (Acquaah 2012). In other words, information about genetic relationships is useful for breeders in developing new cultivars with desired traits.

Future prospect

Especially for rice development in swamps, several morphological characters are considered, such as plant height, stem diameter, and yield. Based on our previous research (Mursyidin and Khairullah 2020), *Bayar Papuyu* is the cultivar with the largest stem diameter, while *Lakatan Putih* produces the most panicles. Hence, the results of molecular characterization using this marker expected to complement existing morphological data. Conceptually, morphological characters are representations or the interaction results between molecular characters and their environment (Xu 2013). Thus, the application of other, more specific molecular markers, such as SNP, is expected to reveal the potential for local rice genetic diversity in this region.



Figure 3. The genetic relationships of tidal swamp rice landraces indigenously from the South Kalimantan, Indonesia, generated by UPGMA (A) and ML (B).

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