

Improvement of Napier Grass Silage Nutritive Value by Using Inoculant and Crude Enzymes from *Trichoderma reesei* and Its Effect on *in Vitro* Rumen Fermentation

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(Received 09-11-2015; Reviewed 04-12-2015; Accepted 15-01-2016)

ABSTRACT

This research was aimed to evaluate the effect of inoculant and crude enzyme of *Trichoderma reesei* on fermentation quality and rumen digestibility of napier grass silage. This research consisted of two stages. The first stage was fermentation quality using a completely randomized design with three treatments and six replications. The second stage was rumen fermentability using a randomized block design with three treatments and six replications. The treatments of both stages were: T0= control of napier grass silage (Hi-fer+), T1= control + *T. reesei* inoculant at the level of 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg, and T2= control + crude enzyme from *T. reesei* at the level of 11.4 unit/kg. Napier grass silage were kept at room temperature and opened 21 d after fermentation. The result of the first stage experiment showed that T2 decreased ($P < 0.01$) dry matter, organic matter, crude fiber, and neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and also increased ($P < 0.05$) crude protein, total digestible nutrient (TDN), pH, acetic acid, and propionic acid of napier grass silage while T1 decreased ($P < 0.01$) NDF and increased ($P < 0.05$) propionic acid. The result of the second stage experiment showed that there were no significant differences in rumen pH, *in vitro* dry matter and organic matter digestibility, total VFA, proportion of VFA, ratio of acetic to propionic acids, and also NH_3 . It is concluded that the addition of crude enzyme from *T. reesei* could improve fermentation quality of napier grass silage with decreasing NDF and increasing TDN but did not affect rumen fermentability.

Key words: napier grass, silage, Trichoderma reesei, enzyme, in vitro

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengevaluasi pengaruh inokulan dan enzim kasar asal *Trichoderma reesei* pada kualitas produk silase rumput gajah dan kualitas fermentabilitas rumen. Penelitian terdiri atas dua tahap. Tahap pertama merupakan pengujian kualitas produk silase rumput gajah. Percobaan ini menggunakan rancangan acak lengkap dengan tiga perlakuan dan enam ulangan. Tahap kedua bertujuan untuk menguji fermentabilitas rumen yang menggunakan rancangan acak kelompok dengan tiga perlakuan dan enam ulangan. Perlakuan untuk kedua tahap penelitian adalah T0= kontrol, T1= kontrol + inokulan *T. reesei* dosis $2,13 \times 10^7$ cfu/kg, dan T2= kontrol + *crude enzyme* dari *T. reesei* dosis 11,4 unit/kg. Silase rumput gajah disimpan pada suhu ruang dan dibuka 21 hari setelah fermentasi. Hasil tahap pertama menunjukkan bahwa T2 menurunkan ($P < 0.01$) bahan kering, bahan organik, serat kasar, dan NDF, serta meningkatkan ($P < 0,05$) protein kasar, TDN, pH, asam asetat, dan asam propionat dari silase rumput gajah; sedangkan T1 menurunkan ($P < 0,01$) NDF dan meningkatkan ($P < 0,05$) asam propionat. Hasil percobaan tahap kedua menunjukkan bahwa pH rumen, pencernaan bahan kering dan bahan organik *in vitro*, total VFA, proporsi VFA, rasio asetat/propionate, dan NH_3 sama antarperlakuan. Kesimpulan dari penelitian ini, penambahan enzim kasar asal *T. reesei* dapat meningkatkan kualitas produk silase rumput gajah dengan menurunkan NDF dan meningkatkan TDN, tetapi belum berpengaruh terhadap fermentabilitas rumen.

Kata kunci: rumput gajah, silase, Trichoderma reesei, enzim, in vitro

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INTRODUCTION

The qualified and sustainable forages availability is needed in the ruminant farm. Seasonal changes affect the availability of forages. The availability of forage is abundant in rainy season, while shortage of forage is often occurred in dry season. The shortage of quality forage has become the limiting factor for development of ruminant farm resulting in the decreased ruminant production. To overcome the shortage of forage during dry season, the development of forage preservation technology such as fermented forage/silage called Hi-fer+ is needed.

Fermented forage/silage (Hi-fer+) is a forage preservation technology through ensiling process added with special fermentation additive and packed in airtight plastic bags. Ensiling is forage preservation process under anaerobic fermentation condition (McDonald *et al.*, 1991). Ensiling reduce pH of fermented product through homofermentation process of major water soluble carbohydrate (WSC) to lactic acid by lactic acid bacteria (LAB), thereby harmful microorganism can be inhibited and nutrient content can be preserved (Sun *et al.*, 2009). Special fermentation additive component consists of growth promoter for microbes, palatability enhancer, minerals from organic acids and antioxidant. Technology of fermented forage/silage and special fermentation are developed by Center for Tropical Animal Studies (CENTRAS), LPPM, Bogor Agricultural University. The preservation process of fermented forage/silage is occurred due to LAB using the available WSC produce lactic acid that causes a rapid decline in fermented forage/silage pH that eventually preserves nutrient and prevents the growth of undesirable microorganism.

Ensiling of tropical forages are difficult because these forages have high fiber content, low dry matter (DM) content, low concentration of WSC, and low crude protein (CP) content (Avellaneda *et al.*, 2009; Bureenok *et al.*, 2012). Thus, the digestibility of tropical forage is quite low. Fibrolytic enzymes, molasses, glucose were often used as additives to improve fermentation quality of silage (Dean *et al.*, 2005; Li *et al.*, 2014). To improve fermentation quality and digestibility of fermented forage, it can be done by using *Trichoderma reesei* activity.

T. reesei is known to produce enough cellulose and hemicellulose (Juhász *et al.*, 2005). The potential of *T. reesei* can be useful to degrade cell wall plant thereby improving the digestibility of fermented forage. *T. reesei* can grow at pH 4 to 7 (Bailey *et al.*, 1993) that is expected to work in fermentation process of fermented forage. Addition of lactic acid bacteria to forage at ensiling promotes homofermentation of major water soluble carbohydrate (WSC) to lactic acid, thereby causes a rapid decline of silage pH and increase silage quality (Amanullah *et al.*, 2014; Ridwan *et al.*, 2015). While the addition of *T. reesei* inoculant in fermented forage was expected to grow in the earlier fermentation that still had available oxygen so that the *T. reesei* could use substrate of plant to produce cellulase and could accelerate anaerobic condition. When the fermentation condition was anaerobic, the cellulase could be used to enhance

degradation of fiber plant and increase WCS content as substrates for lactic acid bacteria to produce more lactic acid and to preserve the nutrients.

Utilization of enzyme activity from *T. reesei* can be done through crude enzyme extraction. Crude enzyme can be used to improve nutritive quality of silage. Hidayat *et al.*, (2005) reported that addition of crude enzyme derived from *Trichoderma viride* improved dry matter digestibility and organic matter digestibility of rice straw silage. Production of crude enzyme requires substrate as medium growth. *T. reesei* cultivated with cellulose and lignocellulose substrates as carbon source produces enzymes such as cellulase, amylase, hemicellulose, ligninase, peptidase and proteinase (Adav *et al.*, 2012; Saloheimo & Pakula, 2012). Rice straw contains cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin that can be used as substrate for production of crude enzyme. Addition of crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* was expected to produce more substrates for LAB at the early stage of fermentation by enhancing fiber degradation. During silage fermentation, added cellulase degrades cellulose to sugar and the LAB uses it to produce lactic acid (Sun *et al.*, 2012). This process result in rapid increase in lactic acid and a drop in pH, which inhibits activities of non-lactic acid bacteria and plant enzymes for proteolysis (Sun *et al.*, 2012; Li *et al.*, 2014).

The use of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* in process of making napier grass silage was expected to improve fermentation quality of napier grass silage. This study was aimed to evaluate the effect of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* on fermentation quality of napier grass silage, dry matter and organic matter digestibility and rumen fermentation product determined by *in vitro*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Trichoderma reesei Culture

The strain for inoculant and crude enzyme production was *T. reesei* QM6a. *T. reesei* QM6a was collected from IPB Culture Collection (IPBCC), Bogor, Indonesia. Stock cultures of *T. reesei* were maintained on potato dextrose agar (PDA) slants in test tubes at room temperature (28-30°C) for 7 d, and stored at 4°C when spores were formed as described by Prabavathy *et al.* (2006).

Crude Enzyme from *Trichoderma reesei* Production

Crude enzyme from *T. reesei* was produced according to the method of Anwar *et al.* (2010). Rice straw was sun-dried for 4 d, then cut and milled. Rice straw sample (20 g) was soaked in 80 mL of 2% NaOH aqueous solution and kept at 120°C for 30 min, then washed with tap water to neutral pH, then dried at 60°C.

Around 5 g of rice straw powder was added in 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask containing 25 mL of liquid medium, then sterilized at 121°C for 15 min. Liquid medium was used for crude enzyme containing 1.0 g yeast extract, 1.5 g bacteriological peptone, 1.4 g (NH₄)₂SO₄, 2.0 g KH₂PO₄, 0.005 g FeSO₄.7H₂O, 5 mL of 1% CMC in each liter of 0.1 M acetic buffer with pH 5.0. This me-

dium was inoculated with *T. reesei* spore suspension of 1.8×10^8 cfu/mL and incubated for 6 d. After incubating, culture broth was added 100 mL of 1% Tween 80 in 0.1 M acetic buffer with pH 5.5 and stirred at 175 rpm for 135 min. After stirring, culture broth was centrifuged at 8000 rpm for 10 min at 4°C and the supernatant was analyzed for filter paper activity (FPA). The FPA to measure enzyme activity was determined according to Ghose (1987) method.

Fermented Forage/Silage (Hi-fer+) Preparation

Forage used in this study was Napier grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*). Napier grass was cultivated in experimental field at Faculty of Animal Science, IPB. The grass was harvested at 60 d after planting and air-dried for a night. The harvested grass was chopped into small pieces about 5 cm length. The chopped grasses were added 2% additive fermentation (CENTRAS LPPM IPB) and 7% molasses, and then packed in low density polyethylene plastic (270 mm x 50 mm x 0.07 mm) with 2 layers. Inoculant and crude enzyme were mixed with additive fermentation before being added in forage. The dosage of *T. reesei* inoculant was 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg fresh weights. The dosage of crude enzyme addition or supplementation to napier grass silage was 11.4 IU/kg fresh weights based on previous study (Hidayat *et al.*, 2005). The amount of forage in each plastic was 3 kg. Six plastics per treatment were prepared. Napier grass silage were kept at room temperature and opened after 21 days of fermentation.

Chemical Analysis

Napier grass before fermentation and napier grass silage sample were dried at 60°C for 48 h and milled for chemical analysis. Dry matter (DM), organic matter (OM), crude protein (CP), crude fiber (CF) and ether extracts (EE) were determined according to the method of AOAC (2005). Total digestible nutrient (TDN) content was calculated according to the formula of Hartadi *et al.* (1980). Neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and acid detergent fiber (ADF) were determined by Van Soest *et al.* (1991).

Around 20 g of napier grass silage samples were blended with 200 ml sterilized water. Napier grass silage juice was used to analyze pH, acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, lactic acid, and NH₃ (ammonia). The pH value was measured with pH meter (Hanna HI98107). Lactic acid was analyzed by the titration method AOAC (2005). Acetic acid, propionic acid, and butyric acid were analyzed by using gas chromatography (GC 8A, Shimadzu Crop., Kyoto, Japan, Capillary column type containing 10% SP-1200, 1% H₃PO₄ on 80/100 Chromosorb WAW and nitrogen as gas carrier). The concentration of NH₃ was analyzed by using Conway microdiffusion method.

In Vitro Study

The samples of napier grass silage of day 21 were analyzed *in vitro* according to Tilley & Terry (1963) method. The rumen fluid was collected 2 h after the

morning feeding from three fistulated Ongole Crossbred beef cattle's in Indonesia Institute of Sciences, Cibinong, Bogor, which was cared for according to Ethical Approval from Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) 01-2013b IPB. The *in vitro* study was evaluated in six *in vitro* runs, each *in vitro* run used rumen fluid from a fistulated Ongole crossbred beef cattle. Rumen samples were transferred into a pre-warmed thermos flask for transport to the laboratory. These fluids were filtered through two layers of cheesecloth under a continuous stream of CO₂. Air-dried napier grass silage samples (500 mg) were put into 100 mL fermentation tube and warmed at 39°C before being added 40 mL McDougall buffer and 10 mL rumen fluid under continuous stream of CO₂. The fermentation tubes were closed with rubber stopper and incubated in a 39°C shaker water bath. The fermentation fluid of 4 h incubation was collected to determine pH, volatile fatty acid (VFA) and NH₃ while fermentation fluid of 48 h incubation was collected to determine *in vitro* dry matter digestibility (IVDMD) and *in vitro* organic matter digestibility (IVOMD).

The pH of rumen was measured with pH meter. Total VFA concentration and molar proportion of VFA were analyzed by using gas chromatography (GC 8A, Shimadzu Crop., Kyoto, Japan). The concentration of NH₃ was analyzed by using Conway micro diffusion method. IVDMD and IVOMD were determined by using Tilley & Terry (1963) method.

Statistical Analysis

The chemical and fermentation product analysis was conducted in a completely randomized design with three treatments and six replications. The *in vitro* study was conducted in a randomized block design with three treatments and six replications. Different rumen fluid for each incubation run of *in vitro* served as block in the statistical model. The treatments were as follows: (1) T0 (Napier grass silage (Hi-fer+) without additives as control), (2) T1 (napier grass silage with addition of inoculant *T. reesei* at 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg fresh weights) and (3) T2 (napier grass silage with addition of crude enzyme from *T. reesei* at 11.4 unit/kg fresh weights). Data were analyzed by using the Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and the differences between means were compared by using Duncan's Multiple Range Test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Activity of Crude Enzyme from *Trichoderma reesei*

Enzyme activity (FP-ase) of crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* was 0.50 IU/mL that was tested in 30°C and pH 5. The result was lower than that was reported by Fang *et al.* (2010) that FP-ase activity of enzyme from *T. reesei* was 2.48 IU/mL. The Fp-ase activity reported by Fang *et al.* (2010) was tested in 50°C and pH 4.8. This was caused by the different of *T. reesei* strain and medium substrates, in which Fang *et al.* (2010) used *T. reesei* strain RUT-C30 and corn stover as substrates. Jun *et al.* (2013) reported that FP-ase activity of enzyme from

T. reesei strain RUT-C30 with xylose as substrates was 0.62 IU/mL. This result indicated that production of enzyme from *T. reesei* depend on strain, source of carbon, temperature, and pH.

Chemical Composition of Napier Grass Silage

The crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* (T2) treatments significantly decreased ($P < 0.01$) the contents of DM, OM and CF of napier grass silage as compared with control (T0) and *T. reesei* inoculant (T1) (Table 1). The decreased DM and OM contents in napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme was probably due to the increased degradation process of fiber into fermentable carbohydrate in the crude enzyme treatment. Therefore, the LAB used starches and sugars to produce lactic acid and volatile fermentation products. The degradation process of starches and sugars to lactic acid or VFA caused a decrease in DM of napier grass silage. Similar finding was reported by Dehghani *et al.* (2012) that some fibrolytic enzyme treatments decreased DM of maize stover silages. The CF content of napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme was lower than other treatments, indicating that crude enzyme was more efficient in degrading plant cell wall than *T. reesei* inoculant only. McDonald *et al.* (1991) stated that cell wall degrading enzymes should degrade cell wall component to simpler molecules, so that providing more substrate for lactic acid bacteria.

The crude enzyme treatment significantly increased ($P < 0.05$) CP content of napier grass silage. The increased CP content was due to the decrease in OM, especially carbohydrate, thus the proportion of protein increased. This result indicated that crude enzyme addition was able to promote LAB growth and to prevent proteolysis process from microbes and plant enzymes, so that encourage reduced protein degradation in ensiling process of napier grass silage. Similar finding was reported by Li *et al.* (2014) that addition of cellulase additive increased CP content of king grass silage.

The DM, OM, CP, CF, and TDN contents of napier grass silage treated with *T. reesei* inoculant did not differ significantly than the control ($P > 0.05$). There were no significant differences in EE contents of napier grass

silage among treatments ($P > 0.05$). Similar finding was reported by Li *et al.* (2014) that addition of cellulase did not affect EE content of king grass silages.

Crude enzyme treatment of napier grass silage increased ($P < 0.05$) TDN content compared with control and inoculant treatments. This effect could probably due to a higher CP content and a lower CF content in crude enzyme treatment. The *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme treatments significantly decreased ($P < 0.05$) NDF contents of napier grass silage than control. The NDF content of napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme was lower than other treatments, indicating crude enzyme treatment was more effective than *T. reesei* inoculant treatment to degrade NDF. Similar finding was reported by Xing *et al.* (2009) and Li *et al.* (2014) that cellulase additive decreased NDF content of silages. Addition of enzymes to silage should degrade fiber partially to water soluble carbohydrate (WSC) for used by LAB (Eun & Beauchemin, 2007). The ADF contents of fermented silages did not differ ($P > 0.05$) among treatments. This result indicated that ADF fraction have not been effectively degraded by inoculant and crude enzyme.

Fermentation Characteristic of Napier Grass Silage

The pH value of napier grass silage was influenced by additive treatments. Napier grass silage treated with *T. reesei* inoculant had higher ($P < 0.05$) pH value than other treatments (Table 2). The pH value of all fermented forages was below 4, which was an indicator of well-preserved napier grass silage. According to McDonald *et al.* (1991), pH value for silage should be below 4.5 to preserve the silage. It indicated all napier grass silage met these criteria as well-preserved quality. The addition of crude enzyme slightly increased pH of napier grass silage. Xing *et al.* (2009) reported that addition of fibrolytic enzyme did not alter pH value in sorghum straw silages. High concentration of acetic acid, propionic acid and NH_3 in napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme caused slightly increasing pH value. The addition of *T. reesei* inoculant may be led to heterofermentative bacteria growth resulting in higher pH value, lower lactic acid and higher VFA product contents. Arriola *et*

Table 1. Nutrient compositions of napier grass and napier grass silage after 21 d ensiled

Chemical compositions	Napier grass	Treatments			SEM	P-value
		T0	T1	T2		
Dry matter (DM) (%)	17.24	21.71 ^B	22.74 ^B	20.19 ^A	0.286	0.008
Organic matter (% DM)	88.61	87.01 ^B	86.97 ^B	85.59 ^A	0.153	0.002
Crude protein (% DM)	6.51	6.76 ^a	6.84 ^a	7.40 ^b	0.096	0.032
Ether extract (% DM)	1.35	1.70	2.08	2.26	0.114	0.163
Crude fiber (% DM)	29.51	28.95 ^B	28.71 ^B	25.65 ^A	0.467	0.001
Total digestible nutrient (% DM)	49.63	50.76 ^a	51.79 ^a	54.61 ^b	0.534	0.027
Neutral detergent fiber (% DM)	72.19	67.76 ^C	66.13 ^B	62.96 ^A	0.304	<0.001
Acid detergent fiber (% DM)	46.48	44.13	44.38	42.83	0.397	0.263

Note: T0= control; T1= control + *T. reesei* at 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg fresh weight; T2= control + crude enzyme from *T. reesei* at 11.4 unit/kg fresh weight. SEM= standard error of means. Means in the same row with different small superscripts differ significantly ($P < 0.05$); means in the same row with different capital superscripts differ significantly ($P < 0.01$).

al. (2011) reported that heterolactic bacteria fermentation had higher pH value, lower lactic acid concentration and higher acetic and propionic acid concentrations.

Lactic acid content did not differ significantly ($P>0.05$) among treatments. This might due to addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme derived from *T. reesei* did not improve LAB propagation at the fermentation time. Similar finding was reported by Dean *et al.* (2005) that addition of fibrolytic enzyme did not increase lactic acid concentration in bermudagrass silages. However, lactic acid concentration of napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme was slightly greater than control. The addition of crude enzyme improved NDF degradation to supply enough substrates for LAB growth, thereby slightly increased lactic acid concentration.

Acetic acid content of napier grass silage was influenced by additive treatments. Napier grass silage containing *T. reesei* inoculant had higher ($P<0.05$) acetic acid content than control. Huisden *et al.* (2009) and Bureenok *et al.* (2012) reported that the higher acetic acid concentration in silage was caused by the heterofermentative LAB growth. This result indicated that addition of *T. reesei* inoculant made the fermentation was dominated by heterofermentative bacteria and resulted in increasing acetic acid.

The inoculant and crude enzyme treatments significantly increased ($P<0.05$) propionic acid of napier grass silage than control. This result might due to fermentation of napier grass silage treated with inoculant and crude enzyme was dominated by hetero-fermentative LAB and probably promoted propionic acid bacteria. Similar finding was reported by Dehghani *et al.* (2012) that several fibrolytic enzymes increased propionic acid concentration in lucerne and maize stover silages. The concentration of acetic acid and propionic acid were high enough, that can be used to increase aerobic stability of napier grass silage. Sufficient concentrations of acetic acid and propionic acid increased aerobic stability of silages (Xing *et al.*, 2009; Chen *et al.*, 2014).

There was no significant difference ($P>0.05$) in butyric acid concentration of napier grass silage among treatments. Similar finding was reported by Dean *et al.* (2005) that several fibrolytic enzymes did not affect bu-

tyric acid concentration in bermudagrass silages. Butyric acid concentrations of all napier grass silage were low indicating well-preserved napier grass silage. According to McDonald *et al.* (1991), silages containing more than 10% butyric acid are poorly preserved. The NH_3 contents of all treatments were similar ($P>0.05$). This result indicated that addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme did not affect proteolysis activity in napier grass silage. Similar finding was reported by Xing *et al.* (2009) that NH_3 -N contents of control and fibrolytic enzyme treatment were similar in sorghum straw silages. NH_3 contents of all treatments were low indicating good quality of napier grass silage. According to Xing *et al.* (2009) that low NH_3 -N content (<25 g/kg DM) showed a good silage.

In Vitro Digestibility and Rumen Fermentation of Napier Grass Silage

The mean pH of rumen fluid (6.90-6.93) was similar in all treatments (Table 3). According to Krause & Oetzel (2006), normal rumen pH was 5.5-7.0. This result indicated that addition of control and treated of napier grass silage still maintained rumen condition suitable for feed fermentation process. The IVDMD and IVOMD contents did not show significant difference among different treatments. The decrease in CF and NDF contents of napier grass silage treated with crude enzyme did not cause the napier grass silage more easily degraded by rumen microbes, so that had similar IVDMD and IVOMD contents. Dehghani *et al.* (2012) reported that although addition of fibrolytic enzyme decreased NDF content but OMD of alfalfa silages was not affected by enzyme and even several enzymes treatment decreased OMD of maize stover silages. Different result was reported by Xing *et al.* (2009) that addition of complex enzyme (cellulase and hemicellulase) increased DMD of sorghum straw silages. The different responses may be due to different types of forage and enzyme. Thus, the addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme derived

Table 2. Characteristics of napier grass silage after 21 d fermentations

Fermentation characteristics	Treatments			SEM	P-value
	T0	T1	T2		
pH	3.53 ^a	3.62 ^b	3.57 ^{ab}	0.011	0.029
Lactic acid (g/kg DM)	57.95	52.69	69.79	3.224	0.119
Acetic acid (g/kg DM)	7.87 ^a	21.12 ^b	16.05 ^{ab}	1.634	0.015
Propionic acid (g/kg DM)	0.98 ^a	4.46 ^b	3.19 ^b	0.413	0.012
Butyric acid (g/kg DM)	0.80	1.61	1.85	0.200	0.135
NH_3 (g/kg DM)	0.83	0.95	1.09	0.042	0.070

Note: T0= control; T1= control + *T. reesei* at 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg fresh weight; T2= control + crude enzyme from *T. reesei* at 11.4 unit/kg fresh weight. DM= dry matter; SEM= standard error of means. Means in the same row with different small superscripts differ significantly ($P<0.05$).

Table 3. In vitro digestibility and rumen fermentation characteristics of napier grass silage

Variables	Treatments			SEM	P-value
	T0	T1	T2		
pH	6.90	6.93	6.92	0.013	0.590
IVDMD (%)	51.15	51.81	50.85	0.587	0.798
IVOMD (%)	49.16	50.61	48.89	0.676	0.558
Total VFA (mM)	54.51	50.35	46.75	3.904	0.727
Acetic acid (% VFA)	51.04	50.38	49.82	0.507	0.631
Propionic acid (% VFA)	32.88	33.07	33.45	0.487	0.889
Butyric acid (% VFA)	16.09	16.54	16.73	0.289	0.656
Ratio A/P	1.57	1.58	1.54	0.031	0.891
NH_3 (mg/dl)	10.26	11.21	9.58	0.442	0.358

Note: T0= control; T1= control + *T. reesei* at 2.13×10^7 cfu/kg fresh weight; T2= control + crude enzyme from *T. reesei* at 11.4 unit/kg fresh weight. IVDMD= in vitro dry matter digestibility; IVOMD= in vitro organic matter digestibility; VFA= volatile fatty acid; Ratio A/P= ratio acetic to propionic; SEM= standard error of means; DM= dry matter.

from *T. reesei* did not improve nutritive value of napier grass silage that was seen from IVDMD and IVOMD contents.

Total VFA production and molar proportion of VFA in rumen fluid did not differ significantly among treatments. The similar total VFA concentration was due to the addition of additives in napier grass silage did not stimulate rumen microbes' growth. The mean total VFA concentration (46.75-54.51 mM) was too lower than optimum concentration according to McDonald *et al.* (2011) i.e., 70 to 150 mM. The total VFA found in this study was slightly higher than total VFA of napier grass (48.54 mM) reported by Okoruwa & Igene (2014). The different responses might be due to the low digestible carbohydrate and protein contents in napier grass silage resulting in differences microbial populations, thereby decreasing total VFA concentration. Suharti *et al.* (2011) reported that production of total VFA increased when the level of concentrate in ration increased. Molar proportion of acetic acid, propionic acid and butyric acid in the rumen fluid was not affected by treatments. All treatments showed lower ratio of acetic acid to propionic acid (1.54-1.57). The lower ratio of acetic acid to propionic acid was beneficial to animal production. Propionic acid is a main precursor to gluconeogenesis process in ruminant, which converted to glucose in liver; thereby glucose can be used by animal for production and reproduction (McDonald *et al.*, 2011).

The rumen NH₃ content (9.58-11.21 mg/dL) did not show significant difference among different treatments. The similar rumen NH₃ indicated that treatments of napier grass silage provided similar efficient use of ammonia. This might due to addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzyme in napier grass silage had not improved fermentability of napier grass silage so that there was no change in the activity of rumen microbes leading to NH₃ formation. In rumen, ammonia is used by rumen microbes as nitrogen source for microbial protein synthesis (McDonald *et al.*, 2011). The mean rumen NH₃ that was in optimum concentration according to McDonald *et al.* (2011) was 85 to 300 mg/L. Syahrir *et al.* (2009) stated that the lower NH₃ concentration indicated several reasons that are well-fermentation process thus utilization of ammonia occurred, the diet had CP that difficult to be degraded or the diet had low CP content. The low CP of napier grass silage in this study probably caused low concentration of rumen NH₃ formed.

CONCLUSION

All treatments produced well-preserved napier grass silage with low pH, high lactic acid and low butyric acid contents. The addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzymes derived from *T. reesei* increased acetic acid and propionic acid contents. The addition of crude enzymes derived from *T. reesei* improved fermentation quality of napier grass silage with increasing TDN, CP, and decreasing NDF content of napier grass silage. Based on *in vitro* evaluation, the addition of *T. reesei* inoculant and crude enzymes did not cause negative effect on rumen fermentability of napier grass silages.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This experiment was supported by funds from BPP-DN scholarship and CENTRAS LPPM IPB.

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