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Research Journal of Agricultural Sciences
An International Journal

P- ISSN: 0976-1675

E- ISSN: 2249-4538

Volume: 12

Issue: 04

Res Jr of Agril Sci (2021) 12: 1173–1176

 CARAS

Effect of the Application of Fluorescent Pseudomonads, Salicylic Acid, Navagavya and Bipolaris and *Bipolaris oryzae* on Changes in the Enzymatic Contents of Rice Var. ADT 36

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Received: 02 May 2021 | Revised accepted: 18 Jun 2021 | Published online: 12 July 2021
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ABSTRACT

The pot culture studies were undertaken to investigate the changes in the enzymatic contents in rice var. ADT 36 after the application of bioprotectant fluorescent pseudomonads, Resistance inducing chemical Salicylic acid, Organic immunizer Navagavya and inoculation of brown spot pathogen *Bipolaris oryzae*. Among the various treatments undertaken, seed treatment of fluorescent Pseudomonads with sprouted rice seeds at the rate of 10 g/kg of seeds, along with foliar application of Salicylic acid 50 ppm at 15 DAT and Navagavya (5%) at 30 DAT recorded the minimum disease incidence, increased biometrics and yield parameters. Results also revealed that the same treatment increased the activity of β -1,3 glucanase, Peroxidase (PO), Polyphenol oxidase (PPO), Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL). The activity of β -1,3 glucanase, PO, PPO, PAL increased upto 14 days of sampling and then decreased in the test plants.

Key words: *Bipolaris oryzae*, β -1,3 glucanase, Peroxidase, Polyphenol oxidase, Phenylalanine ammonia lyase, Salicylic acid

Rice is an important staple crop and it has shaped the culture, diets and economic of thousands of millions of people and for more than half of the humanity “Rice is life”. The rice plant is a member of *Poaceae* (*Graminae*) family. It has been cultivated in Asia for several thousand years. About fifty per cent of the crop is grown and consumed in Asia and it is the net exporter of rice to the rest of the world. India stands second after China which has developed hybrid rice technology on a commercial scale. India is the home to paddy and the largest paddy growing and second larger paddy producing and consuming country. Rice crop is being affected by several diseases, insects and physiological disorders which accounts several million yield losses. Among them Brown leaf spot disease is the most serious disease of rice [1]. It caused Bengal Famine in 1942, with yield loss of 50-90%, which resulted in death of 2 million people due to starvation. The pathogen can infect both seedlings and mature plants with the coleoptile, leaves, leaf sheath, panicle branches, glumes, and spikelets [2].

Peroxidases are oxido-reductive enzymes that participate in the wall-building processes such as oxidation

of Phenols, suberization and lignification of host plant cells during the defence reaction against the pathogenic agents. Accumulation of lignin and phenolic compounds have been correlated with disease resistance in a number of plant-pathogen interactions [3].

Polyphenol oxidases are involved in the oxidation of polyphenols into quinones (antimicrobial compounds) and lignification of plant cells during the microbial invasion. Phenol oxidases generally catalyze the oxidation of phenolic compounds to quinones using molecular oxygen as an electron acceptor [4-5]. A number of studies have indicated that phenol-oxidizing enzymes such as PPO may participate in defense reactions and hypersensitivity in resistant plants to viruses, bacteria and fungi. These enzymes are also involved in reactions culminating in wound-induced tissue browning and erecting physical barriers against parasites [6-7].

Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) is the first enzyme of phenylpropanoid pathway that catalyzes the conversion of L-phenylalanine to trans-cinnamic acid is the key enzyme in the synthesis of several defense-related secondary compounds like phenols and lignins [8]. The presence of phenolic compounds in plants and their synthesis in response to infection is associated with disease resistance.

Plant β -1,3-glucanases are directly involved in defence by hydrolyzing the cell walls of fungal pathogens most commonly in combination with chitinase isozymes. *In*

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in vitro analysis has shown that β -1,3-glucanases act directly on fungal pathogens by degrading β -1,3/1,6-glucans and chitinases act by attacking the bond between the C1 and C4 of two consecutive N-acetylglucosamines of chitins in fungal cell wall [9]. Degradation of the hyphal cell wall of the pathogenic fungi not only renders it susceptible to cell lysis but also for the actions of other components of fungal defence responses [10].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Method of sampling

Samples of plant materials from each treatment were taken at 0, 7, 14 and 21 days after inoculation both in healthy and inoculated plants for estimating the changes in the biochemical constituents viz., starch, ortho dihydroxy phenols, total phenols, amino nitrogen, protein and enzymes like peroxidase, polyphenol oxidase, phenylalanine ammonia lyase, β 1,3 glucanase and ascorbic acid oxidase.

Enzyme extraction

One g of the leaf material cut into small bits was crushed in chilled 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer at pH 7.1. The volume was made upto 5 ml with the buffer, centrifuged at 2,100 rpm for 30 min and the supernatant was used as the enzyme source and all the assays viz., polyphenol oxidase, peroxidase, phenylalanine ammonia lyase and ascorbic acid oxidase were performed in a UV Spectrophotometer at $28 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ [11].

Enzymes	References
Polyphenol oxidase (PPO)	[12]
Peroxidase (PO)	[13]
Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL)	[14]

Enzyme activity of PO and PPO was expressed in terms changes in absorbance/ minute /mg of protein. The activity of PAL was expressed as nmol transcinnamic acid min^{-1} mg protein $^{-1}$.

β -1, 3-glucanase (Pan *et al.* [15])

Crude enzyme extract of 62.5 μl was added to 62.5 μl of 4 per cent laminar in and incubated at 40°C for 10 min. The reaction was stopped by adding 375 μl of dinitrosalicylic acid (DNS) and heated for 5 min on boiling water bath (DNS prepared by adding 300 ml of 4.5 per cent NaOH to 880 ml containing 8.8 g of DNS and 22.5 g potassium sodium tartarate). The resulting-coloured solutions were diluted with distilled water, vortexed and the absorbance was read at 500 μm . The crude extract preparation mixed with laminar in at zero-time incubation served as blank. The enzyme activity was expressed as μg equivalents of glucose min^{-1} g fresh weight $^{-1}$.

Treatment schedule

T ₁ : SA ₁ (15 DAT)	T ₇ : T ₃ + T ₂
T ₂ : SA ₂ (30 DAT)	T ₈ : T ₁ + T ₄
T ₃ : NG ₁ (15 DAT)	T ₉ : Mancozeb @ 0.2% (comparison)
T ₄ : NG ₂ (30 DAT)	T ₁₀ : Control
T ₅ : T ₁ + T ₂	
T ₆ : T ₃ + T ₄	

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The activity of peroxidase was found more in T₈ (FP + SA₁ + NG₂). The minimum peroxidase was recorded in control treatment (29.67 mol transcinnamic acid min^{-1} mg protein $^{-1}$). Generally, the treatments with SA showed increased peroxidase activity when compared to other treatments and control (Table 1). The activity of peroxidase increased up to 14th day of sampling and then decreased in all the treatments. Peroxidases participate into cell-wall reinforcement. They are involved in the final steps of lignin biosynthesis and in the cross-linking of cell wall proteins [16]. They are usually related to local defense responses but they have been associated with systemic resistance in several plant species viz., cucumber [17], potato [18], rice [19] and tobacco [20].

Table 1 Changes in Peroxidase content of rice var. ADT 36 as influenced by application of FP, SA, NG and *B. oryzae* inoculation

Treatments	Peroxidase (changes in absorbance /min/mg of protein)			
	0 (days)	7 (days)	14 (days)	21 (days)
T ₁ : SA ₁	0.79	7.42	83.60	57.97
T ₂ : SA ₂	0.69	7.29	82.56	55.97
T ₃ : NG ₁	0.67	7.12	81.94	55.34
T ₄ : NG ₂	0.41	5.92	73.68	35.87
T ₅ : T ₁ + T ₂	1.38	19.54	104.38	68.23
T ₆ : T ₃ + T ₄	1.03	14.67	98.23	64.89
T ₇ : T ₃ + T ₂	1.23	18.32	103.46	65.08
T ₈ : T ₁ + T ₄	1.69	20.53	107.85	69.64
T ₉ : Mancozeb @ 0.2%	0.87	7.86	89.84	63.67
T ₁₀ : Control	0.35	3.95	55.43	29.67

The results revealed increased activity of polyphenol oxidase due to treatment with combined application of Bioprotectant resistance inducing chemical, *Navagavya* and pathogen alone inoculated control (Table 2). Among the treatments, T₈ (FP + SA₁ + NG₂) recorded the maximum PPO activity (21.74 changes in absorbance /min/mg of protein) on 21st day after inoculation which was followed by

T₅ treatment (SA₁ + SA₂). PPO is a copper containing enzyme, oxidizing phenolics to highly toxic quinines and involved in the terminal oxidation of diseased plant tissues which was attributed for its role in disease resistance [21]. PPOs play a role in plant immunity, and emerging evidence suggested that PPOs might also be involved in other physiological processes [22].

Table 2 Changes in polyphenol oxidase content of rice var. ADT 36 as influenced by application of FP, SA, NG and *B. oryzae* inoculation

Treatments	Polyphenol oxidase (changes in absorbance /min/mg of protein)			
	0 (days)	7 (days)	14 (days)	21 (days)
T ₁ : SA ₁	0.68	2.32	20.52	20.63
T ₂ : SA ₂	0.59	2.10	20.37	20.62
T ₃ : NG ₁	0.47	1.99	19.54	20.53
T ₄ : NG ₂	0.44	1.95	18.27	16.43
T ₅ : T ₁ + T ₂	0.95	2.98	21.65	21.71
T ₆ : T ₃ + T ₄	0.87	2.67	21.41	21.64
T ₇ : T ₃ + T ₂	0.94	2.69	21.53	20.65
T ₈ : T ₁ + T ₄	1.29	3.67	21.84	21.74
T ₉ : Mancozeb @ 0.2%	0.75	2.38	20.74	21.59
T ₁₀ : Control	2.73	4.17	18.12	14.68

The data depicted in (Table 3) showed significant increase in the activity of Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) in rice plants treated with FP, SA and NG. The induction of Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (PAL) reached the maximum on the 14th day and thereafter gradual decline was observed. Generally, the treatments with SA showed increased Phenylalanine ammonia lyase activity when compared to other treatments and control. Among the different treatments, T₈ recorded the maximum activity with 74.98 n mol transcinamic acid min⁻¹ mg protein⁻¹ of PAL

on 21st day of sampling. PAL is also a key enzyme for biosynthesis of salicylic acid (SA), a plant hormone required to initiate systemic acquired resistance (SAR) in plants [23]. In rice, Phenylalanine ammonia lyase genes are activated during both Pattern Triggered Immunity (PTI), Effector Triggered Immunity (ETI), PAL mRNA accumulation and enzyme activity is induced by diverse types of rice pathogens [24]. Current research findings are consistent with previous results from plant pathosystems that implicate PAL in induced plant defense responses [25-26].

Table 3 Changes in phenylalanine ammonia lyase content of rice var. ADT 36 as influenced by application of FP, SA, NG and *B. oryzae* inoculation

Treatments	Phenylalanine ammonia lyase (n mol transcinamic acid min ⁻¹ mg protein ⁻¹)			
	0 (days)	7 (days)	14 (days)	21 (days)
T ₁ : SA ₁	20.54	99.87	110.65	71.23
T ₂ : SA ₂	20.23	99.54	110.65	70.67
T ₃ : NG ₁	20.12	98.98	109.11	70.52
T ₄ : NG ₂	18.76	89.04	94.12	65.32
T ₅ : T ₁ + T ₂	22.75	101.64	120.87	73.54
T ₆ : T ₃ + T ₄	22.38	101.12	114.76	72.95
T ₇ : T ₃ + T ₂	22.58	101.34	118.54	72.98
T ₈ : T ₁ + T ₄	23.32	102.98	122.98	74.98
T ₉ : Mancozeb @ 0.2%	22.15	100.65	112.33	71.32
T ₁₀ : Control	13.51	82.98	87.06	54.23

β -1,3-glucanase activity was observed in the leaf samples of rice at different day intervals. Among the various treatment, the plants treated with fluorescent Pseudomonads (seed treatment) @ 10 g / kg, SA and NG (foliar spraying at 30 and 45 DAT) by challenge inoculated with *B. oryzae* (T₈) recorded a maximum induction of β -1,3-glucanase activity 127.9 μ g of Glucose released/ min/g of fresh tissue on 7th day after pathogen inoculation. The enzyme activity significantly increased up to 7th day from the pathogen

inoculation and then declined slowly in all the treatments (Table 4). SA may act as an endogenous signal responsible for activating particular components of resistance to *Phytophthora capsici* and the induction of pathogenesis-related proteins such as β -1,3-glucanase and chitinase [27]. The exogenous application of salicylic acid enhanced the activities of antioxidant enzymes ascorbate peroxidase (APX) and SOD with a concomitant decline in the activity of CAT in maize plants [28].

Table 4 Changes in Beta 1,3 glucanase content of rice var. ADT 36 as influenced by application of FP, SA, NG and *B. oryzae* inoculation

Treatments	Glucose min ⁻¹ g fresh weight ⁻¹			
	0 (days)	7 (days)	14 (days)	21 (days)
T ₁ : SA ₁	22.8	116.9	108.5	82.8
T ₂ : SA ₂	22.2	115.5	107.4	81.7
T ₃ : NG ₁	20.7	114.8	106.6	80.3
T ₄ : NG ₂	20.2	113.7	105.0	79.6
T ₅ : T ₁ + T ₂	25.2	124.2	115.2	92.1
T ₆ : T ₃ + T ₄	23.8	121.3	110.3	85.9
T ₇ : T ₃ + T ₂	24.4	123.5	112.8	89.2
T ₈ : T ₁ + T ₄	27.5	127.9	120.7	95.2
T ₉ : Mancozeb @ 0.2%	23.5	118.4	110.0	85.4
T ₁₀ : Control	14.9	91.5	77.6	59.3

CONCLUSION

Seed treatment of fluorescent pseudomonads with sprouted rice seeds at the rate of 10 g/kg of seeds, along with foliar application of salicylic acid 50 ppm and

Navagavya (5%) recorded the minimum disease incidence, increased biometrics and yield parameters also increased the activity of β -1,3 glucanase, PO, PPO, PAL. The activity of β -1,3 glucanase, PO, PPO, PAL increased upto 14 days of sampling and then decreased in the test plants.

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