Isolation and Characterization of Antibiotic-producing Endophytic Bacteria from *Citrus aurantifolia* Swingle

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Research on the isolation and characterization of antibiotics-producing endophytic bacteria from *Citrus aurantifolia* leaves has been done. The isolation process was carried out by spreading spread plate isolation technique, screening of antibiotic-producing bacteria was done by disc dilution method and characterization of antibiotic-producing bacteria was done by microscopic, macroscopic and 16S rRNA analysis methods. The result of this research is four endophytic bacteria isolates that potentially produces antibiotic compounds. First, isolates with the CA01 code of fermentation fluids have inhibitory activity against *Streptococcus mutans* bacteria. Second, isolate with the code CA 02 able to inhibit growth of *Vibrio chloreae* bacteria. Third, isolates with the CA 03 code were able to inhibit bacterial growth of *Salmonella thypii* and *E. faecalis*. Fourth, isolate with CA 04 code has inhibitory activity on *Salmonella thypii* and *Salmonella thyposa* bacteria. The microscopic, macroscopic and 16S rRNA characterization for antibiotic-producing endophytic bacteria results were *Bacillus cereus* RNS_01 (code CA 01), *Pantoea agglomerans* ZFJ-15 (Code CA 02), *Bacillus subtilis* 55C1-1 (Code CA 03) and *Bacillus pumilus* SH-B11 (Code CA 04).

Keywords: Endophytic bacteria, Citrus aurantifolia, antibiotic, 16S rRNA.

Antibiotics had been used since 1928 for disease preventive and treatment of infectious diseases. Nowadays, the use of antibiotics is increasing along with the increase of new infectious disease cases and resistance increase of some bacteria that cause the infection against the antibiotics used. Most antibiotics that are commercially used are synthetic antibiotics that are prone to trigger resistance to pathogens, especially bacteria^{1,2,3}. This situation led to the need for exploration to find a source of new and more potent natural antibiotics. One of the natural source antibiotics that widely developed recently by various research institutions is the endophytic bacteria that live mutually in the host plant^{4,5}.

Several types of endophytic bacteria that have been successfully isolated and are known to produces active compounds with antibiotic⁶, antimalaria⁷ and antifungal^{8,9} properties. The ability of endophytic bacteria to produce these active compounds is a potential that can be developed to replace the process of discovery of active compounds by extracting plants, especially medicinal plants¹⁰. One disadvantage of obtaining an active compound from the plant is it requires longer time and more complex process with smaller yield compared to extracting active compound from bacteria after a fermentation process.

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One of the plants that has antibiotic potential is the *Citrus aurantofolia* plant. Natural content of *Citrus aurantifolia* plant that it has secondary metabolite in the form of essential oil. It was reported by many researchers that the essential oil of lime leaves has antibacterial and antifungal properties^{11,12}. In society, lime leaves was used to treat skin diseases, sore throat and sprue. Some study also reported that lime leaves used as anti-inflammatory (anti-inflammatory) and mouthwash, because the leaf is known also contains essential oils^{13,14}.

The essential oils antibacterial activity is caused by active compounds contained in essential oils which can inhibit or kill bacterial or fungal growth^{15,16}. The compounds produced by the essential oil of lime leaves include limonene, β pinen, sabinene, (E) - β -Ocimene, α -pinen, myrcene, linalool, geranial, neral, citronellol, geranilacetate, nerilacetate, geraniol, and anti fungal nerol¹⁷. Given the potential of active compounds contained in Citrus aurantifolia plants, it was suspected that endophytic bacteria living in citrus plants can also produce the same active compounds or almost the same as those produced by the original plant. There is not much research has been done related to endophytic bacterial isolation on Citrus aurantifolia plant. So this research is done to obtained the endophytic bacteria isolate from Citrus aurantifolia plant which able to produces antibiotic compound, followed by bacterial characterization and antibacterial activity test.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Tools and Materials

Tools used in this research were petri dish, bunsen lights, mortar, stanfer, ose, beaker glass, erlenmeyer, test tube, vortex, autoclave, Laminar Air Flow cabinet, incubator cabinet. Material used were medium Nutrient Broth (NB), Nutrient Agar (NA), disc paper, NaCl 0.85% solution, alcohol, sodium hypochlorite, aquadest.

Sample Collection

Leaves of *Citrus aurantifolia* Swingle were taken from the fruiting plant, cut with sterile knife and then washed with sterile aquadest, then it was put in plastic bags and placed in refrigerator (cooled temperature $\pm 10^{\circ}$ C)^{18.}

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Sterilization of Surface from Plant Organs

Collected leaves was cut for approximately 1 cm². Leaves cut then desinfected with etanol 70% for 1 minute, natrium hipoklorit 2% for 6 minutes, etanol 70% for 30 seconds to remove the natrium hipoklorit and then washed using sterile aquadest¹⁹. **Isolation, Purification and Gram Coloration of Endophytic Bacteria Isolates from** *Citrus aurantifolia* **Leaves**

Sterile leaves was finely grounded using a sterile mortar and then inserted into a serial dilution of 0.85% NaCl solution and vortex. Each serial dilution was inoculated into TSA medium and benomil fungicide as many as 1 μ L mL-1 was added with an antifungal spread plate method¹⁸. It was incubated at 27°C for 1 to 3 x 24 hours. The colonies of grown bacteria was observed morphologically and purified. Pure bacteria isolates then pass through Gram staining¹⁹.

Characterization of *Citrus aurantifolia* Leaf Endophytic Bacteria Isolates using 16S rRNA

Characterization of bacterial isolate by 16S rRNA method was done at the Laboratory of Industrial Microbiology of LIPI Biotechnology Research Center, Bogor. The base order was checked and edited using the Bioedit Sequence Alignment Editor (*http://www.mbio.ncsu.edu/ BioEdit/bioedit.html*). Equality analysis was done by using the Basic Local Alignment Tool at the National Center For Biotechnology Information (*http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov*). While the evolution analysis was done by using ClustalW2 Phylogenetic Tree (*www.ebi.ac.uk*).

Antibiotic Activity Test from Fermentation Fluid of Endophytic Bacteria Isolate *Citrus aurantifolia* Leaf

The test was done towards test bacteria obtained from UAAC Bacteria Culture Center Biotechnology Laboratory, UPT Sumber Daya Hayati, Andalas University, Padang. Test bacteria that were used in this research are *Streptococcus mutans* ATCC 25175, *Staphlococcus aureus* ATCC 25923, *Eschericia coli* ATCC 25922, *Enterobacter faecalis* ATCC 29212, *Micrococcus luteus* ATCC 10240, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Bacillus subtilis* ATCC 6633, *Vibrio chloreae* INABA, *S.epidermidis* ATCC 12228, *Salmonella thypii, Salmonella thyposa* NCTC 786 *Salmonella thypimurium* ATCC 14028 and Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Each endophytic bacteria isolate was grown into Nutrient Broth medium for 24 hours at 27°C with agitation of 120 rpm. Subsequently, it was centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 15 min and the supernatant formed was tested for its activity using a diffusion-agar disc paper. Each of the test bacteria was planted into Nutrient Agar medium by spread plate method and disc paper which immersed with bacterial supernatant was placed, incubated at 27°C for 48 hours. The inhibition zone formed indicates the formation of antibiotic compounds produced by endophytic bacteria after the fermentation process¹⁰.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After isolation and screening of endophytic bacteria from *Citrus aurantifolia* leaf, as much as seven bacterial colonies were detected to produce antibiotic compounds. The morphology of these seven bacteria turned out to be grouped into four



Fig. 1. Observation of endophytic bacterial fermentation fluid inhibitory zone towards Streptococcus *mutans* test bacteria

colonies of different bacteria. Based on the results of characterization using Gram staining method and microscopic observation, it was shown that the four isolated bacteria were all in the form of bacillus, three bacteria from Gram positive group and one Gram negative (Table 1). The number of bacteria that grow in the medium is relatively small, this is due to environmental factors and the organ taken only leaves. It also known that the presence of endophytic bacteria in plants is influenced by environmental factors and plant organs^{3,19}.

The data in Table 1 shows that the macroscopic and microscopic characteristics of antibiotic-producing endophytic bacteria isolates from *Citrus aurantifolia* leaves are very diverse. This is shows that the presence of bacteria contained in leaf tissue is also relatively large and diverse as well. In Table 1, it was also shown that all isolated antibiotic-producing bacteria colony were in circular form, three endophytic bacterial isolates were Gram-positive i.e CA 01, CA 03, CA 04 whereas CA 03 Gram was negative with all bacil cell foem. It is known that theoretically the colony's distinction from bacteria is a characteristic of a particular species^{20,21}.

Furthermore, Table 2 shows the results of antibiotic activity test from antibiotic-producing endophytic bacteria from *Citrus aurantifolia* leaf. It is demonstrated that endophytic bacterial isolate may inhibit the growth of some test bacteria. Inhibitory power of each isolate bacteria is different, as CA1 isolate bacteria positive to be able to inhibit *Streptococcus mutans* bacteria, CA 02 isolate bacteria can inhibit *Vibrio chloreae* bacteria, CA 03 can inhibit *E. faecalis* bacteria and CA 04 can inhibit *Salmonella thypii* and *Salmonella thyposa* bacteria. It is characterized by

 Table 1. Macroscopic and microscopic results of antibiotic-producing endophytic bacteria isolate from *Citrus aurantifolia* leaves

No.	Isolate	Mac	roscopic of	oservation of	the colony	Microso observation of	•
	Code	Form	Color	Border	Elevasion	Gram	Cell form
1.	CA 01	Circular	White	Undulate	Convex	Positif	Bacil
2.	CA 02	Circular	White	Entire	Umbonate	Negative	Bacil
3.	CA 03	Circular	Cream	Entire	Convex	Positif	Bacil
4.	CA 04	Circular	Cream	Entire	Umbonate	Positif	Bacil

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No Isolate				Antił	biotic activity	y against ba	icaterial test						
Code	S.thypii	rpii S. thyposa S. NCTC 786	S. thypimurium E.coli E.faecalis ATCC ATCC ATCC 14028 25922 29212	E.coli ATCC 25922	coli E.faecalis S.mutan M.luteus V.chloreae ICC ATCC ATCC ATCC INABA 1922 29212 25175 10240	S.mutan ATCC 25175	M.luteus ATCC 10240	V.chloreae INABA	B.subtilis ATCC 6633	MRSA	MRSA P. aeruginosa ATCC 27853	S. epidermidis ATCC 12228	S. aureu ATCC 25923
A 01						+	ı						
3A 02	,			ı	ı	·	ı	+	,	·	ı		ı
CA 03	+			ı	+	ı	ı	ı	ı	ı	ı		+
CA 04	+	+		ı	ı	·		ı	,	,	ı		'

the activity of each isolate that have the same ability with its host plant. This ability is antibacterial, because the host plant have secondary metabolite compound that is essential oil which have ability as antibacterial. It has been reported by previous researchers that *Citrus aurantifolia* plant in addition to benefits for health, it also containing essential oil with antibacterial and antifungal properties¹².

Figure 1 showed the ability of the inhibitory power of the endophytic bacteria isolate fermentation fluid to one of the test bacteria, Streptococcus mutans. The results of this experiment showed that each endophytic bacterial isolate produces antibiotic compounds that different capabilities towards the test bacteria used (Table 2). This allegedly caused by the differences in the active compound and molecular structure of the resulting antibiotic compounds. Concerning this condition, further research on the purification and determination of the molecular structure of each antibiotic compound produced is needed. In another study it was reported that the essential oils and antioxidant content of Citrus aurantifolia leaf with volatile oils concentrations of 20%, 10%, 5%, 1% was able to inhibited the growth of Staphylococcus aures, Bacillus subtilis, Enterobacter faecalis, Salmonella paratypii, E.coli, Klebsiella pneumonia, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Serratia marcescens²³.

In Figure 2 it can be seen that endophytic bacterial isolates that have a large inhibitory ability was the CA 01 bacterial isolate that able to inhibit the *Streptococcus mutans*. This condition is shown by the clear zone formed. The clear zone was showed that the activity of CA 01 bacterial isolate has the content of bioactive compounds which is similar to the leaves of *citrus aurantifolia*. Ardani (2010) also mentioned that the essential oil contained in *C. aurantifolia* can inhibit the bacterium *Streptococcus mutans* for 0.06%²².

The evolutionary analysis was performed using Clustal W2 Phylogenetic Tree (*www.ebi. ac.uk*). In this analysis, the outgroup used was *Escherichia coli* K12. The results showed that *Bacillus subtilis* 55-C1-1 usually has very close genetic relationship with *Bacillus pumilus* SH-B11 (Figure 3). From the results of Pairwise Sequence Alignment analysis both bacteria have the similarity of 93.9%. In this study, most of the

No.	Isolate Code	16S rRNA Sequence NCBI Result	BLAST (%)	Homolog
1	CA 01	AGAGCTTGCTCTTATGAAGTTAGCGGC	Bacillus	94
		GGACGGGTGAGTAACACGTGGGTAA	cereus	
		CCTGCCCATAAGACTGGGATAACTCC	RNS 01	
		GGGAAACCGGGGCTAATACCGGATAAC	(KT380683.1)	
		ATTTTGAACCGCATGGTTCGAAATTGAAA		
		GGCGGCTTCGGCTGTCACTTATGGATGGA		
		CCCGCGTCGCATTAGCTAGTTGGTGAGGT		
		AACGGCTCACCAAGGCAACGATGCGTAG		
		CCGACCTGAGAGGGTGATCGGCCACACT		
		GGGACTGAGACACGGCCCAGACTCCTAC		
		GGGAGGCAGCAGTAGGGAATCTTCCGCA		
		ATGGACGAAAGTCTGACGGAGCAACGCCG		
		CGTGAGTGATGAAGGCTTTCGGGTCGTAAA		
		ACTCTGTTGTTAGGGAAGAACAAGTGCTAG		
		TTGAATAAGCTGGCACCTTGACGGTACCTAA		
		CCAGAAAGCCACGGCTAACTACGTGCCAGC AGCCGCGGTAATACGTAGGTGGCAAGCGTT		
		ATCCGGAATTATTGGGCGTAAAGCGCGCGCA		
		GGTGGTTTCTTAAGTCTGATGTGAAAGCCCA		
		CGGCTCAACCGTGGAGGGTCATTGGAAACT		
		GGGAGACTTGAGTGCAGAAGAGGAAAGTGGA		
		ATTCCATGTGTAGCGGTGAAATGCGTAGAGA		
		TATGGAGGAACACCAGGTGGCGAAGGCGA		
		CTTTTCTGGTCTGTAACTGAACACTGAAGGC		
		CGCGAAAGCGTGGGGGGGGCAAACAGGATTAG		
		ATACCCTGGTAGTCCACGCCGTAAACGATG		
		AGTGCTAAGGGTTAGAGGGGTTTCCGCCC		
		CTTAGTGCTGAAGTTAACGCATTAAGCAC		
		TCCCCCTGGGGAGTACGGCCCCAAGCC		
		TGAAACCTCAAAGAAATTGACCGGGGCC		
		CCCAACAAGCGGGTGGAGCATGTGGT		
		TTAATCCGAAGCAACGCGGAAGAACCTT		
		ACCCAGGTCTTGACATCCTCTGACAAACC		
		CTAGAGGATAGGCCTCTCTCCTTGGGGA		
		CCAGAGGGCCAGGTGGGCCATGGTG		
		GCGGTCACTCGTGGTGGTGAGATGTTGG		
		GTTAATTCCGGCACCGAGGCCAACCTTTG		
		TCCTTAGTGCCCACCATTAAGTTGGCCAT CCTAAGGTGATGCCCGGGGCCAACCCGG		
		AGGAAGGTGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG		
		ATCCCCCTTATGCCTTGGCTTCCCCACGT		
		CTTCCAATGGACGGTCCAAAGAGCTCCAGG		
		ACCGGGAGGGGGGGGGGGGTTATTTTCATAAACCCT		
		TTTTCAGTTGGGATTTTGGGCTCCAATTGCCT		
		TCCAGGAAGCGGGAATCCTTGGTAATCGGGG		
		ATCACCAGGCCGCGTGGAATAGGTTCCCGG		
		CCCTGTTCCCCCCCCGGCCCCACCCGGGG		
		ATTTGGTACCACCGGAAGTGGGTGGGGTACC		
		TTTTTGGAGCCAGCCGCCTAAGG		
	CA 02	GCAGTCGAGCGGAGTTGACGGAAAGCTTGCT	Pantoea	99
		TTCCTGATACTTAGCGGCGGACGGGTGAGTAA	agglomerans	
		CACGTAGGCAACCTGCCCTCAAGCTTGGGAC	ZFJ-15	
		AACTACCGGAAACGGTAGCTAATACCGAATAC	(EU931554.1)	
		TTGTTTTCTTCGCCTGAAGGAAACTGGAAAG	. ,	
		ACGGAGCAATCTGTCACTTGGGGGATGGGCCT		
		GCGGCGCATTAGCTAGTTGGTGAGGTAACGG		
		CTCACCAAGGCGACGATGCGTAGCCGACCTGA		

 Table 3. Result of endophytic bacteria 16S rRNA sequence analysis

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GAGGGTGATCGGCCACACTGGGACTGAGACA	
CGGCCCAGACTCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAGTAGG	
GAATCTTTCCGCAATGGGCGAAAGCCTGACGG	
AGCAATGCCGCGTGAGTGATGAAGGTTTTCGG	
ATCGTAAAGCTCTGTTGCCAGGGAAGAACGCT	
TGGGAGAGTAACTGCTCCCAAGGTGACGGTAC	
CTGAGAAGAAAGCCCCCGGCTAACTACGTGCCA	
GCAGCCGCGGTAATACGTAGGGGGGCAAGCGTTG	
TCCGGAATTATTGGGCGTAAAGCGCGCGCAGGC	
GGTCATGTAAGTCTGGTGTTTAATCCCGGGGGCTC	
AACCCCGGATCGCACTGGAAACTGCGTGACTTG	
AGTGCAGAAGAGGAGAGTGGAATTCCACGTGTA	
GCGGTGAAATGCGTAGAGATGTGGAGGAACACCA	
GTGGCGAAGGCGACTCTCTGGGCTGTAACTGACG	
CTGAGGCGCGAAAGCGTGGGGAGCAAACAGGATT	
AGATACCCTGGTAGTCCACGCCGTAAACGATGAAT	
GCTAGGTGTTAGGGGTTTCGATACCCTTGGTGCCG	
AAGTTAACACATTAAGCATTCCGCCTGGGGAGTAC	
GGTCGCAAGACTGAAACTCAAAGGAATTGACGGG	
GACCCGCACAAGCAGTGGAGTATGTGGTTTAATTC	
GAAGCAACGCGAAGAACCTTACCAGGTCTTGACAT	
CCAACTAACGAGGCAGAGATGCGTTAGGTGCCCT	
TCGGGGAAAGTTGAAACAGGTGGTGCATGGTTGT	
CGTCAGCTCGTGTCGTGAGATGTTGGGTTAAGTCC	
CGCAACGAGCGCAACCCTTATATTTAGTTGCCAGC	
ATTTCGGATGGGCACTCTAAATAGACTGCCGGTG	
ACAAACCGGAGGAAGGTGGGGGATGACGTCAAAT	
CATCATGCCCCTTATGACCTGGGCTACACACGTAC	
TACAATGGCCGGTACAACGGGCAGTGAAGCCGC	
GAGGTGGAACCAATCCTAAAAAGCCGGTCTCAG	
TTCGGATTGCAGGCTGCAACTCGCCTGCATGAA	
GTCGGAATTGCTAGTAATCGCGGATCAGCATGCC	
GCGGTGAATACGTTCCCGGGTCTTGTACACACC	
GCCCGTCACACCACGAGAGTTTATAACACCCGA	
AGTCGGTGGGGTAACCGCAAGGAGCCAGCCGC	
CGAAGGTGGGATAGAT	
GCAGTCGAGCGGACAGATGGGAGCTTGCTCCCT	Bacilus
GATGTTAGCGGCGGACGGGTGAGTAACACGTG	subtilis
GGTAACCTGCCTGTAAGACTGGGATAACTCCGG	55C1-1
GAAACCGGGGCTAATACCGGATGGTTGTTTGAA	(JN366797.1)
CCGCATGGTTCAAACATAAAAGGTGGCTTCGGC	
TACCACTTACAGATGGACCCGCGGCGCATTAGC	
TAGTTGGTGAGGTAACGGCTCACCAAGGCAACGA	
TGCGTAGCCGACCTGAGAGGGTGATCGGCCACAC	
TGGGACTGAGACACGGCCCAGACTCCTACGGGAG	
GCAGCAGTAGGGAATCTTCCGCAATGGACGAAAG	
TCTGACGGAGCAACGCCGCGTGAGTGATGAAGGT	
TTTCGGATCGTAAAAGCTCTGTTGTTTAGGGAAGA	
ACCAAGTACCGTTCGGAATAGGGGCGGTACCTTG	
ACCGGTACCTAACCCAGAAAGCCACGGGCTAACT	
ACGTGCCAGCAGCCGCGGTAATACGTAGGTGGCA	
AGCGTTGTCCGGAAATTATTGGGCGTAAAGGGCT	
CGCAGGCGGTTTCTTAAGTCTGATGTGAAAGCCCC	
CGGCTCAACCGGGGAGGGTCATTGGAAACTGGGG	
AACTTGAGTGCAGAAGAGGAGAGAGTGGAATTCCAC	
GTGTAGCGGTGAAATGCGTAGAGATGTGGAGGAAC	
ACCAGTGGCGAAGGCGACTCTCTGGTCTGTAACTG	
ACGCTGAGGAGCGAAAGCGTGGGGAGCGAACAGG	
ATTAGATACCCTGGTAGTCCACGCCGTAAACGATGAG	
	ł
TGCTAAGTGTTAGGGGGGTTTCCGCCCCTTAGTGCTG	ŕ
TGCTAAGTGTTAGGGGGGTTTCCGCCCCTTAGTGCTG CAGCTAACGCATTAAGCACTCCGCCTGGGGAGTAC	ł
TGCTAAGTGTTAGGGGGGTTTCCGCCCCTTAGTGCTG	ì

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3 CA 03

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	GGCCCGCACAAGCGGTGGAGCATGTGGTTTAATT CGAAGCAACGCGAAGAACCTTACCAGGTCTTGAC ATCCTCTGACAATCCTAGAGATAGGACGTCCCCTTC GGGGGCAGAGTGACAGGTGGTGCATGGTGTGCG TCAGCTCGTGTCGTG
4 CA 04	GATGAI GCTTGCTCCCCGGATGTTAGCGGCGGACGGGTGA ATAACTCCGGGTAACCCGGCTGTAAGACTGGG Jumilus ATAACTCCGGGAAACCGGAGCTAATACCGGATA SH-B11 GTTCCTTGAACCGCATGGTTCAAGGATGAAG GGGGTTTGGCCGACGCGAGCGGAGCG

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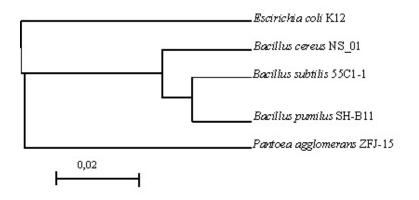


Fig. 2. Phylogenetic tree of 16S rRNA sequence of isolated antibiotic-producing endophytic bacterial in this research

bacteria obtained is from the *Bacillus* genera, this is because *Bacillus* existence is very abundant in the environment *Citrus aurantifolia* and *Bacillus* bacteria have the ability to penetrate into plant tissue^{23,24}.

CONCLUSIONS

As much as four endophytic bacterial isolates that could potentially produce antibiotic compounds was obtained. First, isolates with CA01 code has fermentation liquids with inhibitory activity against Streptococcus mutans bacteria. Second, isolate with code CA02 was able to inhibit the growth of Vibrio chloreae bacteria. Third, isolate with the CA03 code was able to inhibit bacterial growth, Salmonella thypii and E. faecalis. Fourth, isolate with CA04 code has inhibitory activity on Salmonella thypii and Salmonella thyposa bacteria. The results of microscopic, macroscopic and 16S rRNA characterization, the four endophytic bacteria that potentially producing the antibiotic were Bacillus cereus RNS 01 (code CA01), Pantoea agglomerans ZFJ-15 (Code CA 02), Bacillus subtilis 55C1-1 (Code CA 03) and Bacillus pumilus SH-B11 (Code CA 04).

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