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RESEARCH ARTICLE

EFFECT OF ORGANIC MATERIALS AND ZA (ZINC AMMONIUM) FERTILIZER TO GROWTH AND YIELD OF SHALLOT IN ULTISOL SOIL IN WEST SUMATERA, INDONESIA.

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Abstract

The research aimed to study the interaction of several organic materials and ZA fertilizer. The research was conducted in August to November 2018 in experimental garden of Faculty of Agriculture, Andalas University. Factorial design in Completely Randomized Design was used in this research. The experiment consisted of 2 factors. The first factor was several types of organic material with 3 treatments, 25 ton/ha of chicken manure, 25 ton/ha of cattle manure and 25 ton/ha of husk charcoal. The second factor was dose of ZA fertilizer with 4 treatments, no ZA application, 300 kg/ha, 400 kg/ha and 500 kg/ha. The data was analysed by F test in 5% and followed by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) in 5%. The result showed that the best interaction occurred in dose 25 ton/ha of husk charcoal and ZA 500 kg/ha. This interaction affected the diameter of tuber, fresh and dry weight of tuber per hectare. 500 kg/ha of ZA affected the best number of tuber and 25 ton/ha of chicken manure affected the plant height of shallot plant.

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Introduction:-

Shallot (*Allium ascalanicum*) is main horticulture commodity that widely consumed by human in the world as spice for food after chilli [1]. Beside being as spice, shallot also is sold for various products such as shallot extract, shallot powder, essential oil, fried shallot even as medicine for cholesterol level, blood glucose, avoiding blood clotting, decreasing blood pressure and expedite blood flow [2]. As horticulture commodity, shallot is potential to be developed not only for domestic but it can be also exported to other countries.

Shallot can be cultivated in low land (1 m above sea level (asl)) to highland (> 1000 asl). Shallot can grow well in humidity 80-90 %, fertile and loose soil and contains organic matter, porous soil structure and pH 5.5-6.5 [3]. The well growth and maximal yield can be obtained if the plants are cultivated in altitude up to 250 asl. The shallot grows well in dry climate and hot temperature and obtain sunlight more 12 hours for growth and formation of optimal tuber. The appropriate temperature for shallot growth is 25°C-30°C [4].

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Production of Shallot in Indonesia in 2016 was 1,446,859 ton in width of land 149,635 ha with the productivity 9.67 ton/ha. In 2017, shallot production was 1,470,155 ton in width of land 158,172 ha with productivity 9.29 ton/ha [5]. According the data, national production of shallot decreased. Since 2016, Indonesia goverment has stopped shallot import and started exporting shallot to overseas such as Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

Increasing of production quality of shallot yield can be done through 2 factors, intensification and extensification. Extensification effort is done through new land clearing for agricultural. One of way is ultisol soil use. 25% of Indonesian land is ultisol soil. The widest land is in Borneo, followed by Sumatera particularly Riau Province and followed by North Sumatera [6].

Ultisol soil in Indonesia are still not used due to unfertile soil, low organic content, N and P availability is low and low pH (5.5) [7]. However this land is actually potential to develop as agricultural activities. For solving the ultisol problem, many efforts can be done such as increasing soil productivity through organic matter. Organic matter consists of organisme matter such as decomposition of plants, animals and human waste. One type of organic matter is manure. Manure is waste of animal that undergoes decomposition as organic material for plant. Types of manure that were reported to increasing soil fertile were chicken manure and cattle manure. From waste of plant, a type of organic matter is husk charcoal.

Chicken manure significantly affected plant growth. This fertilizer contained macro and micro elements such as Cu, Mn, Co and B that played a role for plant growth [8]. Several reports reported that the manure always has positive response for plant due to it is easier to decompose in soil and contains many essential elements that required by plant. Cattle manure also has positive response for plant and it is valuable manure. It contains 60-70% organic matter, 2% N, 1% P₂O₅ and 1% K₂O [9]. The advantage of this manure is the number of it is abundant and easy to obtain. The manure contains microorganisms that support decomposition process in soil [10]. The other organic matter is husk charcoal. Husk is part of rice grain, dry scaly, protecting inside part of grain. Main organic component in husk is 50% cellulose, 26% lignin, 4% organic component such as oil, protein and others [11]. Husk charcoal can be used for planting media and it contains high carbon and nutrient elements. Compounds in husk charcoal are SiO₂ 52%, C 31% and other compounds such as Fe₂O₃, K₂O, MgO, CaO, MnO and Cu in low amount. Nutrient elements in husk charcoal are 0.32 % N, Phosphorus 0.15%, 0.31% K, 0.96% Ca, 180 ppm Fe, 80.4 ppm Mn, 14.10 ppm Zn and pH 8.5-9.0 [12]. Husk charcoal application to soil increased soil fertile and plant production [13].

In tuber plants, ZA (Zwavelzure ammoniak) plays a role for improving tuber quality such as colour, flavour, taste and size of tuber. Bud and chlorophyll formation was significantly supported by ZA. ZA contains sulfur [14]. If sulfur content in plant is not enough, the leaves of plant undergo chlorosis. The reserach aimed to study the interaction of several organic materials and ZA fertilizer.

Research Method:-

The reserach was conducted in Experimental garden, Faculty of Agriculture, Andalas University, Padang, Indonesia from August to November 2018. The altitude of experimental place was \pm 250 above sea level (asl) and type of soil was ultisol. The variety of the shallot was Bima Brebes. Completely randomized design (CDR) with 2 factors was used in this research. The first factor was manure with 3 treatments :

1. A1 : Cattle manure (25 ton/ha)
2. A2 : Chicken manure (25 ton/ha)
3. A3 : Husk charcoal (25 ton/ha)

The second factor was ZA dose in 4 treatments used in this assay.

1. B1 : No ZA application
2. B2 : 300 kg/ha
3. B3 : 400 kg/ha
4. B4 : 500 kg/has

From these factors, 12 treatments were obtained and replied 3 times. 36 experimental units were obtained with population in a experimental unit was 50 plants. For each experimental unit, 12 plants as samplings. Size of experimental plot was 2 m x 1 m and plant spacing was 20 cm x 20 cm. The data was analysed by F test in 5% and followed by Duncan's New Multiple Range Test in 5%.

The field was prepared in first week and followed by tillage. Organic matter was applied in second week. The treatment was applied for each plot by applying various organic matter, 5 kg/plot of cattle manure, 5 kg/plot of chicken manure and 5 kg/kg rice husk charcoal. They were sowed in plots surface.

The planting was conducted in third week. The seedling that used for this assay was Bima Brebes variety. Before planting, tip of tuber was cut 1/3 and outer skin was removed for stimulating root growth and shoot. The seedling was entered in planting hole and each planting hole was filled by one bulb and covered by soil 2/3 of bulb part. The planting space was 20 cm x 20 cm. The total of population in one plot was 50 plants and 12 plants as samplings.

The ZA application was conducted 2 times, half of dose in 10 days after planting and 28 days after planting. The doses of fertilization per plot were accorded to the treatments. The urea was applied 2 times and the second application was applied in 4 weeks after planting. First dose was 180 kg/ha, second application was 180 kg/ha. Urea was used as control to study the effect of sulphure in ZA fertilizer. Therefore, the fertilization was conducted with basic fertilizer, 150 kg/ha of SP-36 and 90 kg/ha of KCl.

The parameters that observed including height of plant, diameter of bulb per clump, number of tuber per clump, fresh weight per hectare and dry weight per hectare.

Result and discussion:-

Height of plant

The result showed that the interaction between organic matter and ZA did not affect the plant height of shallot. The effect only occurred in single factor, manure (Table 1). For ZA single factor, it did not affect the plant height. This condition due to the application of ZA as sulphure source aimed to increase production and harvest quality of shallot. The manure affected the plant height due to each of manure contained different organic matter content. Chicken manure contained higher nitrogen and phosphate content than cattle manure and husk charcoal. It contained 2.33 % of N, 0.61% P₂O₅ [9]. Cattle manure contained 2.33 % N, 0.61 P₂O₅ and husk charcoal contained 0.32% of N and 0,15 % P [15].

Chicken manure could supply well nutrients due to one of its function was improving soil physic and structure, permeability and soil temperature so that the plant could absorb nutrients from soil. The plant growth of shallot was also influenced by soil pH. Ultisol was heavy structure with low nutrients and pH content, the treatment of chicken manure could increase soil pH from 5.2 up to 6.5. If soil was too acid, the plant became stunt and if it was too alkali, the tuber became small and yield was low [16].

The application of chicken manure could provide nutrients that required by plant in growth and development could be well absorbed by plant in ultisol by using N, P, and K to support plant height. N and P played a role in increasing vegetative growth particularly leaves, root and stimulated shoot and plant height [17][18]. The growth of plant would be inhibited if N was not enough absorbed by plant. The lackness of N in plant could be seen from the plant became stunt and the growth was inhibited. The other symptoms were the leaves were light green and yellowing. For N lackness symptom, the growth went slowly, weak and stunt [19].

Table 1:-Height of shallot plant with application of several organic matter and ZA (cm)

Organic matters	ZA fertilizer (kg/ha)				Average
	No ZA	300	400	500	
Cattle manure	37.69	33.30	34.49	36.54	35.54 b
Chicken manure	39.55	40.97	39.08	39.93	39.93 a
Husk charcoal	32.66	39.08	35.58	33.80	33.80 b
Average	36.63	37.78	36.38	37.38	
CoD = 8.32%					

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

Diameter of bulb

The interaction between organic matter and ZA fertilizer affected the diameter of shallot bulb (Table 2). This condition due to organic matter could improve soil condition and increased the soil pH. ZA did not react in low pH due to application of ZA caused the soil became acid. The result showed that interaction between husk charcoal and dose of ZA 500 kg/ha was the best treatment for diameter of shallot bulb (28.76 kg/ha). The result due to in ZA

application in 500 kg/ha could serve plant nutrients requirement. Furthermore, husk charcoal could improve the soil physico so that supported plant in absorbing nutrients optimally. Husk charcoal was soil improver that could improve soil characteristics in land rehabilitation and repaired plant growth. Addition of husk charcoal into planting medium inceptisol soil that had bad drainage, it could improve number of pore spaces and accelerated soil drainage [11].

The application of urea with other organic matter did not affect the bulb of shallot. But, for application of ZA and organic matter affected the bulb diameter. This condition due to sulphure content in ZA manure. ZA was a artificial fertilizer that contained ammonium sulfate that design to increase the nitrogen and sulfur for plant. ZA contained 24 of sulfur and 21 % of nitrogen. Sulfure was essential element that required by plant in large number. The plant took sulfure from soil in SO_4^{2-} form and small portion from air in SO_2 form. The formation of sulfure in soil was organic and anorganic [20]. Half of sulfur in soil was organic form. The other report reported that the increasing of alliin in leaves and plant tuber through increasing of sulfur availability, while the effect of nitrogen was not significant. In early stage of plant growth, the highest alliin content occurred in leaves, after that it was distributed to tuber. The translocation caused the alliin content in tuber increased in harvesting. This condition described that the alliin content increased two times if sulfur was applied. This result also showed that the plant resistance by sulfur application [21].

Table 2:-Diameter of bulb of shallot plant with application of several organic matter and ZA (mm)

Organic matters	ZA fertilizer (kg/ha)			
	No ZA	300	400	500
Cattle manure	23.89 A c	25.52 AB ab	24.62 B bc	26.24 B a
Chicken manure	24.45 A b	26.58 A a	26.52 A a	26.15 B a
Husk charcoal	23.63 A c	24.84 B bc	26.19 A b	28.76 A a
CoD = 3.19%				

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

The application of husk charcoal could also increase the plant production. Husk charcoal played role as soil conditioner, increased the plant growth, maintained nutrients and improved soil biology. Husk charcoal played role as nutrients binder if the excess nutrients occurs and lackness of nutrients absorption, the nutrients were slowly released or slow release [11].

Number of tuber per clump

The result showed that the interaction between organic matter and ZA did not affect the number of tuber per clump. But, the effect occurred in single factor, the ZA application (Table 3). There was no effect of interaction between organic matter and ZA due to the application of organic matter could support tuber growth. The effect of single factor in ZA application due to the ZA function could increase the yield production, increased the plant resistance to pests and diseases, drought and repaired the taste and color of shallot yield [22].

Table 3:-Number of bulb per clump of shallot plant with application of several organic matter and ZA

Organic matters	ZA fertilizer (kg/ha)				Average
	No ZA	300	400	500	
Cattle manure	6.11	5.69	5.94	6.94	6.17
Chicken manure	5.69	6.52	6.44	6.33	6.24
Husk charcoal	5.80	5.88	6.88	6.91	6.36
Average	5.86 B	6.03 B	6.42 AB	6.72 A	
CoD = 6.4%					

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

The result described that higher application of ZA, the number of bulb was more. The condition due to the nitrogen did not significantly affect the leaves number and bulb of shallot. ZA contained ammonium sulfur that played role as to increase the quantity and size of bulb. The high absorption of sulfur in shallot affected the high requirement of

sulfur. Appropriate dose or level of sulfur determined the growth and bulb quality. The availability of sulfur was required by plant to grow until the shallot produced bulbs. The role of sulfur to plant growth was significant [23].

The plant required the sulfur as phosphorus number. Sulfur was found in cystine, cysteine and methionine, amino acids that built protein of plant. Sulfur activated certain enzyme system and played role as component in several vitamins. Even though the sulfur was described as secondary nutrient, most of plant did not undergo sulfur deficiency as nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium [18][19]. Obviously, many cultivated plants contained large number of sulfur and phosphate. If plant underwent sulfur deficiency, the protein production decreased and the plant cell growth was in active and the leaves underwent chlorosis [24].

Fresh weight and dry weight of bulb per hectare

Bulb of shallot is valuable part of plant. The bulb is the main purpose in cultivating of shallot. According to result, interaction of organic matter and ZA affected the fresh weight of bulb. It described that application of organic matter and ZA in same time could increase the shallot bulb (Table 4).

Table 4:-Fresh weight of bulb per hectare of shallot plant with application of several organic matter and ZA (ton)

Organic matters	ZA fertilizer (kg/ha)			
	No ZA	300	400	500
Cattle manure	6.17 A b	7.40 A ab	6.57 B b	8.37 AB a
Chicken manure	7.13 A a	8.28 A a	8.40 A a	6.93 B a
Husk charcoal	6.40 A b	6.90 A b	7.70 AB b	9.28 A A
CoD = 11.76%				

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

Interaction between cattle manure and ZA, highest fresh weight yield of bulb per hectare occurred in 500 kg/ha application (8.37 ton). It due to the cattle manure contained macro elements such as N, P and K that required by plant. These elements also improved soil physics such as aggregate, pores space number and water binding. Furthermore, in chicken manure and ZA application, the increasing of fresh weight did not occur, but in 500 kg/ha dose, the increasing occurred. This condition due to the N excess in ZA and chicken manure so that it affected the fresh weight of bulb [15].

Interaction between ZA and husk charcoal was the best treatment for fresh weight of bulb in the assay (9.28 ton/hectare). It was due to husk charcoal was type of organic matter that could increase the soil pH and repaired the physics and chemical of soil so that ZA application could increase quality and yield of shallot. ZA could also bulb quality such as repaired the color, flavor, taste and bulb size so that the good bulb quality affected the fresh weight of shallot bulb [11][14].

Organic matter also supported the plant growth. The role of organic matter could be measured by 2 aspects, soil and plant. From soil, the weathering of organic matter could serve N, P and K in soil that required by plant, repaired the soil structure, soil aeration and soil physics [25][26]. From plant aspect, the result of organic matter could increase the availability of nutrients for plant and also could be directly absorbed by plant. Husk charcoal was a type of organic matter if it was applied into the soil, it could increase the soil fertility and plant production. It also played a role as nutrient binder when nutrient excess occurred and absorbed the nutrients when they were lack so that the ZA application did not cause acidity of ultisol soil [6].

The fresh weight was also affected by water content of bulb. Organic matter that was applied, it had capacity to bind water, particularly organic matter that contained K. If K content was high, the capacity to bind the water was high so that it influenced the photosynthesis and nutrient distribution in plant [27]. If plant underwent K lackness, the translocation of carbohydrate from leaves to other organs was inhibited so that the photosynthesis result was accumulated in leaves and the rate of photosynthesis decreased. Low yield of bulb was obtained in soil that contained low K content. Potassium played role as in translocation and assimilate, increasing the bulb size, number and yield of bulb [26]. The fresh weight was also affected by harvesting time. Best time for harvesting was in

morning due to the respiration of plant was still minimum so that the water content was higher. Shallot bulb contained 80% of water [28].

Fresh weight was highly related to dry weight. The interaction between organic matter and ZA affected the dry weight of bulb. The result showed that Husk charcoal and 500 kg/ha of ZA was the best treatment for dry weight of bulb (8.17 ton/hectare) (Table 5). The result was no different from fresh weight.

Table 5:- Dry weight of bulb per hectare of shallot plant with application of several organic matter and ZA (ton)

Organic matters	ZA fertilizer (kg/ha)			
	No ZA	300	400	500
Cattle manure	4.97 A b	6.17 A ab	5.53 B b	7.03 AB a
Chicken manure	6.08 A a	7.18 A a	7.27 A a	5.98 B a
Husk charcoal	5.42 A b	5.92 A b	6.42 AB b	8.17 A a
CoD = 11.76%				

The similar uppercase and lower case are different significantly according DNMRT in 5%

The dry weight of the assay was still lower than description of the variety of the shallot (9.9 ton/hectare). Low of yield in the assay due to the adaptation of the plant. The variety (Bima Brebes) was obtained from Brebes, Central Java, Indonesia. Eventhough the variety actually was planted in lowland, it enabled to plant in highland. The adaptation was affected by environmental factor such as rain, temperature and duration of sunlight. Sunlight played important role in shallot life particularly in photosynthesis [29].

Dry matter was the balance between photosynthesis and respiration. Photosynthesis caused the dry weight of plant increased due to the CO₂ taking and respiration caused the dry weight decreased due to CO₂ release. The production of plant was more accurate if measured by dry weight than fresh weight due to fresh weight was affected by humidity [27].

Time and criteria for harvesting significantly affected the decreasing of bulb. The harvesting could be conducted if 90% of leaves were yellowing and bulb neck was limp. At the time, the photosynthesis started to decrease and assimilate tended to play role as in filling of bulb. The drying of bulb caused the weight of bulb decreased and according the description of variety, the shrinking of fresh weight of bulb was 21.5%. The other report reported that the shrinking of bulb was generally 9.02-11.62% due to the drying was only conducted 3 hours/day for 3 days under sunlight [30]. The low of production was also affected by other environmental factor such as type of soil. The soil that in the assay was ultisol. Ultisol soil contained low organic matter and low pH (4.5-5.0) [7]. In cultivating plant in this soil, organic matter was required to improve the soil characteristic [15][16][22].

Conclusion:-

Dose 500 kg/ha of ZA fertilizer and husk charcoal affected the diameter of bulb and fresh and dry weight of bulb. 500 kg/ha of ZA application was the best application for most number of bulb.

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