

ABSTRAK

Rilian Cahya Mutmainnah. 105971101321. Optimasi Pertumbuhan Tanaman Cabai Rawit (*Capsicum frutescens L.*) dengan Pemberian Kompos Tongkol Jagung dan Sekam Bakar Padi. Dibimbing oleh Irwan Mado dan Irma Hakim.

Cabai rawit (*Capsicum frutescens L.*) merupakan salah satu komoditas hortikultura strategis dengan nilai ekonomi tinggi dan permintaan yang terus meningkat. Produktivitas tanaman ini sangat dipengaruhi oleh struktur media tanam, tingkat kesuburan tanah, dan ketersediaan unsur hara. Penggunaan pupuk anorganik secara berlebihan dalam jangka panjang berpotensi menurunkan kualitas tanah secara fisik, kimia, dan biologi. Oleh karena itu, pemanfaatan bahan organik lokal seperti kompos tongkol jagung dan sekam bakar padi menjadi alternatif yang berkelanjutan untuk meningkatkan kesuburan tanah sekaligus mengurangi ketergantungan pada pupuk kimia.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh pemberian kompos tongkol jagung dan sekam bakar padi terhadap pertumbuhan tanaman cabai rawit. Penelitian dilaksanakan pada bulan April hingga Oktober 2025 menggunakan rancangan acak lengkap (RAL) dengan dua faktor perlakuan, yaitu kompos tongkol jagung (T0 = kontrol, T1 = 80 g, T2 = 120 g) dan sekam bakar padi (B0 = kontrol, B1 = 64 g, B2 = 80 g). Setiap kombinasi perlakuan diulang sebanyak tiga kali sehingga diperoleh 27 unit percobaan. Parameter yang diamati meliputi tinggi tanaman, jumlah daun, jumlah cabang, berat basah, berat kering, dan panjang akar.

Data dianalisis menggunakan analisis ragam (ANOVA) pada taraf nyata 5% dan 1%, serta dilanjutkan dengan uji Beda Nyata Terkecil (BNT) apabila terdapat perbedaan yang signifikan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pemberian bahan organik dari kompos tongkol jagung dan sekam bakar padi memberikan pengaruh positif terhadap pertumbuhan vegetatif cabai rawit. Kombinasi perlakuan T2B1, yaitu 120 g kompos tongkol jagung dan 64 g sekam bakar padi per polybag, memberikan respons pertumbuhan terbaik pada sebagian besar parameter. Pemanfaatan bahan organik ini mampu memperbaiki sifat tanah, meningkatkan ketersediaan unsur hara, dan mendukung pertumbuhan cabai rawit secara berkelanjutan serta ramah lingkungan.

Kata Kunci : Tanaman Cabai, Kompos Tongkol Jagung, Sekam Bakar Padi, Pertumbuhan, Bahan Organik.

ABSTRACT

Rilian Cahya Mutmainnah 105971101321. *Optimization of cayenne pepper plant growth (Capsicum frutescens L.) With the application of corncob compost and rice husk ash. Guided by Irwan Mado and Irma Hakim*

Chili pepper (Capsicum frutescens L.) is a strategic horticultural commodity with high economic value and continuously increasing demand. Plant productivity is strongly influenced by the structure of the growing medium, soil fertility, and the availability of nutrients. Excessive use of inorganic fertilizers over the long term can potentially degrade soil quality physically, chemically, and biologically. Therefore, the utilization of local organic materials such as corncob compost and rice husk ash serves as a sustainable alternative to improve soil fertility while reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers.

This study aimed to analyze the effects of corncob compost and rice husk ash application on the growth of chili pepper. The research was conducted from April to October 2025 using a completely randomized design (CRD) with two treatment factors: corncob compost (T0 = control, T1 = 80 g, T2 = 120 g) and rice husk ash (B0 = control, B1 = 64 g, B2 = 80 g). Each treatment combination was replicated three times, resulting in 27 experimental units. The observed parameters included plant height, number of leaves, number of branches, fresh weight, dry weight, and root length.

The data were analyzed using analysis of variance (ANOVA) at the 5% and 1% significance levels, followed by the Least Significant Difference (LSD) test when significant differences were detected. The results showed that the application of organic materials from corncob compost and rice husk ash had a positive effect on the vegetative growth of chili pepper. The T2B1 treatment combination, consisting of 120 g of corncob compost and 64 g of rice husk ash per polybag, produced the best growth response for most observed parameters. The use of these organic materials improved soil properties, enhanced nutrient availability, and supported the sustainable and environmentally friendly growth of chili pepper.

Keywords: chili plants, corn cob compost, rice husk ash, growth, organic matter.