KARAKTERISASI MORFOAGRONOMIS TIGA VARIETAS HIBRIDA MELON (*Cucumis melo* L.) INTRODUKSI DI KOTA PADANG

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Abstrak

Melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) merupakan komoditas hortikultura bernilai ekonomis tinggi, namun produksi nasional cenderung menurun dan ketersediaan benih masih bergantung pada varietas hibrida introduksi. Banyaknya varietas yang beredar di pasaran menyulitkan petani dalam menentukan varietas yang sesuai karena informasi karakter morfoagronomis masih terbatas. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkarakterisasi sifat morfoagronomis dan mengidentifikasi varietas unggul dari tiga varietas hibrida melon introduksi (Sweet Hami, Honey Globe, dan Lavender). Penelitian dilaksanakan di Durian Taruang, Kecamatan Kuranji, Kota Padang, menggunakan Rancangan Acak Lengkap (RAL) dengan 3 perlakuan dan 6 ulangan. Pengamatan meliputi karakter kualitatif dan kuantitatif mengacu pada deskriptor IPGRI (2003), dengan analisis ragam dan uji lanjut DNMRT taraf 5%. Hasil karakter kualitatif menunjukkan ketiga varietas memiliki kesamaan pada karakter vegetatif, sedangkan karakter buah (bentuk, warna kulit, tipe netting, dan warna daging buah) menjadi pembeda utama antarvarietas. Hasil karakter kuantitatif menunjukkan tujuh dari sembilan belas parameter berbeda nyata, yaitu panjang internode, umur panen, lingkaran buah, panjang buah, panjang dan lebar mahkota bunga jantan, serta ketebalan daging buah. Lavender unggul pada panjang internode, Honey Globe pada umur panen tercepat, lingkaran buah terbesar, dan daging buah paling tebal, sedangkan Sweet Hami unggul pada panjang buah. Informasi ini bermanfaat sebagai dasar seleksi awal dan pengembangan program pemuliaan tanaman melon di Indonesia.

Kata kunci: introduksi, karakter kualitatif, karakter kuantitatif, plasma nutfah, potensi hasil

MORPHOAGRONOMIC CHARACTERIZATION OF THREE INTRODUCED HYBRID MELON (*Cucumis melo* L.) VARIETIES IN PADANG CITY

Abstract

Melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) is a high-value horticultural commodity; however, national production has tended to decline, while seed availability still depends on introduced hybrid varieties. The large number of varieties available on the market makes it difficult for farmers to determine suitable varieties because information on their morphoagronomic characteristics remains limited. This study aimed to characterize the morphoagronomic traits and identify superior varieties among three introduced hybrid melon varieties (Sweet Hami, Honey Globe, and Lavender). The research was conducted in Durian Taruang, Kuranji District, Padang City, using a Completely Randomized Design (CRD) with three treatments and six replications. Observations included qualitative and quantitative characteristics based on the IPGRI (2003) descriptors, followed by analysis of variance and the 5% Duncan's New Multiple Range Test (DNMRT). The results of the qualitative characterization showed that the three varieties had similar vegetative characteristics, whereas fruit characteristics (shape, skin color, netting type, and flesh color) were the main distinguishing traits among the varieties. The quantitative characterization showed that seven out of nineteen parameters differed significantly, namely internode length, days to harvest, fruit circumference, fruit length, and the length and width of the male flower corolla, as well as flesh thickness. Lavender was superior in terms of internode length; Honey Globe had the shortest time to harvest, the largest fruit circumference, and the thickest flesh; while Sweet Hami was superior in fruit length. This information is useful as a basis for preliminary selection and for the development of melon breeding programs in Indonesia.

Keywords: Introduction, Qualitative Traits, Quantitative Traits, Germplasm, Yield Potential