

Effect of Manure and Urea on Chemical Properties of Sandy Soil and Physiological Properties of Aloe Vera L. Plant Cultivated in Coastal Sandy Area

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Abstract. Study dealing with the application of cow-manure and urea in different doses in coastal sandy land has aimed to determine the chemical properties dynamic of sandy soil and physiological properties of the aloe plant under nutrient stress condition. The research was conducted in coastal sandy area of Depok, Kretek District, Bantul Regency, Special Region of Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Research was carried out from January until August 2015 using a factorial experiment arranged in Randomized Completely Block Design. The first factor was the doses of manure consisting of three levels, i.e 10; 20 and 30 ton ha⁻¹. The second factor was doses of urea consisting of five levels i.e : 0; 150; 300; 450 and 600 kg.ha⁻¹. The soil chemical properties parameters included organic C content, organic matters level, pH value, total N content, and Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC) were observed. The observation was also objected to physiological parameters of aloe plant such as leaf area, stomatal density, total chlorophyll content, plant photosynthetic rate, plant respiration rate, proline content, and aloetic acid (aloin) content. The results of the experiment indicated that there was an influence of the manure as well as urea on both the chemical properties of sandy soil and the physiological properties of aloe plant.

Keywords: Aloe vera, physiological properties, sandy soil.

I. Introduction

The Aloe vera plant has been used not only as an ornamental plant but also as a health food ingredient materials for the cosmetic industry, and as a medicinal plant [36, 11]. This plant has multifunctional therefore it has known as a Miracle Plant [7]. The leaves of this plant contain fat compounds, carbohydrates, proteins, and 18 essential amino acids, four kinds of vitamins, minerals and six kinds of enzymes. It also contains secondary metabolites: alkaloids, aloins, lectins, lignin, saponins, tannins, phenolic and glucomannan. It is the synergistic activity of all these active substances that contributes to the efficacy of aloe leaves. Aloe vera leaves can be used to improve hair growth, cell regeneration, immunity, and to heal wound, skin irritations, and as anti-inflammatory, antiseptic, antibiotic, antioxidant, anticancer, and anti-cholesterol, antidiabetic, so that Aloe vera leaf is currently used as an ingredient in phytotherapeutics [9, 25, 39, 27].

Aloe plant is one of the horticultural commodities that appropriate to be developed in tropical areas such as Indonesia [12]. For the development of this plant arable land is needed, while the available arable land in Indonesia has decreased and undergone conversion. Available land is marginal land in the form of sandy soil such as coastal sandy land. Up till now the handling of coastal sandy soil is still relatively inadequate. Java Island, the most populous island in Indonesia, has an 81.000 km² area of seaside potential to be developed as agricultural land. The Special Region of Yogyakarta, located in the southern of Java Island, has an expanse of coastland covering approximately 3.300 hectares or 4% of the total area, extending 110 km on the south coast of the country of Indonesian. The ocean stretch of sandy area is around 1-3 km from the coastline. The coastland is marginal land with the following characteristics: sandy textures, loose structure, low nutrient content, low cation exchange capability (CEC), low water storage capacity, extremely high soil temperature during the day, highly wind speed and evaporation rate [40].

To improve the properties of sandy soil an innovative technique is required in the form of ameliorative materials such as manures. The application of manures can create better soil structure of sandy beach land [29]. Manures as the organic fertilizer not only can increase soil fertility, but also can create healthier ecosystem an environment [34]. To increase essential elements content and decrease the soil temperature of coastal sandy land can be used natural organic fertilizers [35]. Aggregation and productivity of sandy land can be increased by using properly fermented organic materials [37].

Plants growing in coastal sandy land can not only suffer due to lack of nutrients but also suffer because of high temperature condition. In high temperature plants will have more thickness leaves, wide stomatal opening, increasing gas exchange, high biomass accumulation [28]. Under stress condition plants can have physiological properties change such as net assimilation rate, respiration rate, stomatal conducting, chlorophyll content, leaf thickness, leaf area, and yield [4]. Assimilate production of the plant depends on light condition, leaf position, air temperature, CO₂ concentration, water, and nutrient elements [38]. Therefore, it is exciting to study the chemical properties of sandy soil and the physiological properties of the aloe plant cultivated in coastal sandy land treated with different doses of manure and urea.

II. Materials and Methods

2.1. Description of the study

The field experiment had been conducted in the coastal sandy area of Depok, Kretek, Bantul Regency, Special Region of Yogyakarta. It has daily temperature of 31-40°C, 100% light intensity, 64-75% humidity, rainfall of 1672.5 mm.year⁻¹. The laboratory observation had been carried out in the Crop Production Laboratory of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Sarjanawiyata Tamansiswa, and in the Soil Science Laboratory, Plant Science Laboratory and Integrated Research and Testing Laboratory of Gadjah Mada University.

2.2. Experimental design

The research used factorial experiment arranged in a complete randomized block design with 3 replications. The first factor was the dosage of manure consisting of three levels, i.e 10 tons ha⁻¹; 20 tons ha⁻¹; and 30 tons ha⁻¹. The second factor was the dosage of urea fertilizer consisting of five levels i.e: 0 kg. ha⁻¹; 150 kg. ha⁻¹; 300 kg. ha⁻¹, 450 kg. ha⁻¹; and 600 kg. ha⁻¹. It resulted 15 combined treatments.

2.3. Experimental procedures

Experimental procedures consist of: Seedling preparations of aloe plants growth in polybag. Initial soil observation to chemical properties. Soil tillage using hoe, land plotting, and planting hole making. Application of manure as a basic fertilizer base on the treatment doses. Planting of the plant, meanwhile giving urea in one- third doses. Urea application **for** the second and third fertilization, each using one-third doses. Water irrigation was done every day in the afternoon using sprayer. Weeding was done manually. Final soil observation to chemical properties was done 6 months after planting.

2.4. Data collection and analysis

The variable for observation of the chemical properties of sandy soil included: pH, concentration of organic C, organic matter, total N and the CEC, while the physiological properties included: leaf area, chlorophyll concentration, density of stomata, photosynthetic rate, respiration rate, transpiration rate, proline concentration, and aloin concentration. The observation of pH using digital pH meter, organic C as well as organic matter using Walkley & Black method, total N using spectrophotometric method, CEC using Flamefotometer & AAS method, Transpiration rate using chlorine cobalt pepper method, stomatal density using stomatal printing and optical lab method, chlorophyll content using Winterman & Demonts, 1965 method, proline concentration using Bates, 1973 method, and aloin concentration using Thin Layer Chromatography Wagner, 1996 method. Analysis of results used analysis of variance at the significance level of 5%, followed by Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the significant level of 5 %.

III. Results and Discussions

3.1. Chemical Properties of Sandy Soil

Results of the experiment indicate that it occur an interaction between manure and urea on both organic C content and organic matter level of the sandy soil (Table 1). The results indicate that application of manure 10 t.ha⁻¹ can increase the organic C level when 150 to 450 kg.ha⁻¹ urea are added. Based on the results of this research, to obtain the highest levels of organic C, 20 ton ha⁻¹manure combined with 600 kg.ha⁻¹urea must be added to the sandy soil. A low level of organic C was obtained on the provision of 10 ton ha⁻¹manure and without the addition of urea. This is consistent with the opinion of Islam et al. [22] that manure can improve soil organic C. Rezig et al. [30] reported that organic fertilizer can increase organic carbon waste. Similarly, Singh et al. [32] stated that organic fertilizer and chemical fertilizer can increase the organic C of the soil.

Based on the results of this study (Table 1.), in order to obtain a high organic matter content of sandy soil 20 tons ha⁻¹of manure and an addition of 600 kg.ha⁻¹ urea is needed. The lowest organic matter content is obtained when 10 ton ha⁻¹ manure is added without the addition of urea. This is consistent with the report of Celik et al. [10] that the given of additional manure and compost can improve the organic matter content of the soil, and it is also in line with the report of Adeoye et al. [1] and Ibrahim et al. [21] reported that the provision of cow and chicken manures and compost can improve the organic matter content of the soil.

Table 1. The interaction between manure and urea on organic C and organic matter level

Variable	Organic C level (%)	Organic Matter level (%)
Treatment: manure + urea dosages / ha		
10 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.68 c	1.09 d
10 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.82 b	1.32 bc
10 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.78 b	1.15 d
10 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	1.53 b	1.53 b
10 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.82 b	1.42 b
20 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.86 b	1.20 d
20 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.78 b	1.13 bc
20 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.76 b	1.26 c
20 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.78 b	1.53 b
20 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	1.13 a	2.46 a
30 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.85 b	1.26 c
30 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.82 b	1.42 b
30 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.73 bc	1.26 c
30 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	0.79 b	1.37 b
30 t + 600 kg.ha⁻¹	1.21 a	2.10 a
Interaction	(+)	(+)

Note: Mean within a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different using Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the 0.05 probability level.

In this research no interactions between the application of manure and urea occur on pH, total N content, and CEC (Table 2). Based on the results of the study, provision of 20 ton ha⁻¹ of cow manure can slightly increase the pH of sandy soil, while the addition of urea up to a dosage of 600 kg.ha⁻¹ do not affect the pH of sandy soil. This is in accordance with the reports of Gasparalos et al. [16] and Hasan and Mahmoud [18] that organic fertilizer, can increase the pH of the soil. In another hand, Singh et al. [32] reported also that vermicomposting is able to raise the pH of the soil. Results of this study are not consistent with Sridhar et al. [33] reported that the provision of urea fertilizer can increase the pH of the soil.

The results of this study indicate that the optimum dosage to produce the highest total N content is with provision of 30 ton ha⁻¹manure (Table 2). The total N content of 0.05% is the highest, although this still belonged to the low category. Similarly, the provision of urea fertilizer, with the optimum dosage of 450 kg.ha⁻¹, can produce the highest total N content of 0.05%.

This is supported by Sridhar et al. [33] that high urea fertilizer can increase the levels of N total. Result of this study is not in accordance with Singh et al. [32] reported that the total N increases when an organic fertilizer is provided in combination with a chemical fertilizer..

Table.2. pH value, N Total level and C E C of the sandy soil after application of manure and urea.

Application	Dosage	pH value (H ₂ O)	Total N (%)	C E C (c mol ⁺ .kg ⁻¹)
Cow Manure (ton.ha ⁻¹)	10	7.01 b	0.03 b	2.95 b
	20	7.21 a	0.03 b	3.11 a
	30	7.01 b	0.05 a	3.29 a
Urea (kg.ha ⁻¹)	0	7.08 p	0.03 q	3.30 p
	150	7.04 p	0.03 q	3.50 p
	300	7.01 p	0.03 q	2.95 q
	450	7.04 p	0.05 p	3.21 p
	600	7.01 p	0.03 q	2.61 q
Interaction		(-)	(-)	(-)

Note: Mean within a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different using Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the 5% probability level.

Results of the research indicate that the optimum dosage to produce high CEC 3.11 was manure application of 20 tons ha⁻¹ even this result still belonged to a very low category. Results of this study is in a line with the research of Gasparalos et al. [16]; Hornick [19]; Rezig et al. [30]; that applications of organic fertilizers can increase the CEC of the soil.

3.2. Physiological Properties

Results of the research (Table 3) indicate that provision of 30 tons manure ha⁻¹ and the addition of 450 kg urea ha⁻¹ produced a broader leaf blade than provision without urea, as well as with urea with of 150, 300 and 600 kg.ha⁻¹. The addition of 600 kg urea ha⁻¹ led to a decrease in leaf area, even lower than without urea. The results are consistent with reports by Adekiya and Agbede [2] that a combination of organic fertilizer and chemical fertilizer can improve tomato leaf area. Ayeni et al. [5] reported that the application of organic and inorganic fertilizers can increase corn leaf area. Likewise Derkota and Dha [13] reported that a combination of organic fertilizer and chemical fertilizer increases *Centella asiatica* L. leaf area. Amara and Mourad [3] reported that a combination of organic and inorganic fertilizers can increase the leaf area of potato plants.

Based on the research results (Table 3), the highest stomatal density is obtained on a treatment combination of 30 tons ha⁻¹ manure and 300 kg ha⁻¹ urea. Huishi et al. [2] reported that the stress conditions of soil can increase the density of stomata in darken colored mustard greens, and Selebasto et al. [31] reported that a stressful environment can increase the stomatal density of *Arabidopsis thaliana* leaves.

Results of this study indicate that treatment combinations of manure in a dosage of 20 tons and urea 450 kg ha⁻¹ as well as manure 30 tons ha⁻¹ and urea 600 kg.ha⁻¹ can produce the highest total chlorophyll content (Table 3). The lowest total chlorophyll content was obtained on manure provision of 20 tons ha⁻¹ without urea. This study indicate that like other plants, aloe plant need much amount of nitrogen to produce chlorophyll. This result is in accordance with the report of El-Sherif and Sarwat [14] that the provision of chicken manure increased the chlorophyll content of rosella leaves, and Karanatsitis and Bouva [26] that an organic fertilizer increased the pigment of chlorophyll concentration in pepper. The result is also consistent with the report of Hamid and Jawaidd [17] that a combination of chicken manure and NPK fertilizer could increase pea chlorophyll, and Ibrahim et al. [21] reported that a combination of chicken manure and a chemical fertilizer could increase the chlorophyll content of *Labisia pumila* plant.

The results of the study (Table 3) indicate that the highest photosynthetic rate is obtained by provision of manure 30 tons ha⁻¹ and urea in a dosage of 450 kg.ha⁻¹. This result indicate that the higher minerals application can led higher photosynthetic rate of the plant. This is congruent with Jouyban's report [23] that a plant in a stress condition can result lower plant photosynthetic rate, due to a decrease in the production of photosynthetic enzyme.

Table 3. Leaf Area, Stomatal Density, Chlorophyll Content and Photosynthetic Rate of Aloe Leaves

Variable	Leaf Area (cm ²)	Stomatal Density (Stomatal/mm ²)	Total of Chlorophyll Content	Photosynthetic Rate ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{mm}^2/\text{s}$)
Treatment: manure				
+ urea dosages			(mg/g)	
10 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	100.80 f	36.55 bc	0.16 c	23.03 b
10 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	158.36 d	38.24 b	0.14 cd	21.26 c
10 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	192.31 b	30.89 c	0.20 b	15.06 d
10 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	185.58 c	39.64 b	0.17 b	20.51 c
10 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	202.48 b	39.11 b	0.17 b	23.50 c
20 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	112.25 f	31.48 c	0.14 d	28.84 b
20 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	182.78 c	40.19 b	0.20 b	25.17 b
20 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	194.01 c	35.60 b	0.17 b	18.94 cd
20 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	184.55 c	38.48 b	0.20 a	21.01 c
20 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	188.55 b	38.65 b	0.18 b	17.49 cd
30 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	195.09 b	39.35 b	0.13 d	26.08 b
30 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	192.36 b	35.82 bc	0.14 d	26.57 b
30 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	197.78 b	46.09 a	0.20 b	23.03 c
30 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	263.84 a	38.59 b	0.16 c	33.97 a
30 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	171.18 d	39.36 b	0.26 a	25.77 b
Interaction	(+)	(+)	(+)	(+)

Note: Mean within a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different using Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the 0.05 probability level.

Based on this research (Table 4), the highest plant respiration rate can be obtained on a application combination of manure 30 tons ha⁻¹ and urea 150 kg ha⁻¹. Results of this study is in line with report of Boudh et al. [8] that a compost organic fertilizer can increase the rate of respiration in ashwaganda plants (*Withania sonintera* L.). In one hand, Jouyban [23] reported that when the plant grow in the soil in a strees condition will have lower the respiration rate. In another hand, Likewise Fahramand et al. ([15] reported that strees condition can increase the rate of respiration of the plant.

Table 4. The Respiration Rate, The Transpiration Rate and Proline Content of Aloe Leaves.

Variable	Respiration Rate (mg/kg/hour)	Transpiration Rate (minute/cm ²)	Proline Content (ppm)	Aloin content (ppm)
Treatment: manure+urea dosages				
10 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	126.42 d	30.66 b	6.75 a	645.67 d
10 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	68.52 f	30.00 b	6.13 a	822.89 a
10 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	76.92 ef	28.33 b	5.38 a	524.37 g
10 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	124.65 d	38.00 b	5.12 a	811.29 a
10 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	96.25 c	48.66 a	5.12 a	676.42 c
20 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	180.23 b	18.66 d	4.49 b	492.42 g
20 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	144.04 c	24.00 c	4.36 b	605.72 f
20 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	141.33 c	31.33 b	4.12 b	637.99 d
20 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	142.02 c	23.66 c	3.96 c	566.97 f
20 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	84.82 ef	26.00 c	3.85 c	760.84 b
30 t + 0.0 kg.ha ⁻¹	73.04 ef	24.33 c	3.67 c	723.41 b
30 t + 150 kg.ha ⁻¹	225.98 a	26.00 c	2.66 d	627.53 d
30 t + 300 kg.ha ⁻¹	144.64 c	31.66 b	2.40 d	791.50 b
30 t + 450 kg.ha ⁻¹	54.69 g	33.33 b	2.28 d	567.47 f
30 t + 600 kg.ha ⁻¹	158.79 bc	32.66 b	2.00 d	648.82 d
Interaction	(+)	(+)	(+)	

Note: Mean within a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different using Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the 0.05 probability level.

The results (Table 4) indicate that the highest transpiration rate was obtained on treatment combination of manure 10 tons ha⁻¹ in combination with all urea 600 kg.ha⁻¹. This result is not so consistent with the report of Kalpana [24] that the manure or organic fertilizer can increase the rate of transpiration in pepper, and quite consistent with Bahadur et al. [6] reported that a strees condition may increase the rate of transpiration in vegetables.

Based on the results (Table 4), the highest concentration of proline is obtained on a combination of manure 10 tons ha⁻¹ in combination with urea application in all doses. These results indicate that application of urea had no significantly effect on the levels of proline content of aloe leaves. Low levels of proline are obtained on treatment combination of manure 30 tons ha⁻¹ in combination with urea of 150 – 600 kg ha⁻¹. These conditions indicate that higher dosage of manure can result better environment that appropriate for plant growth so it resulted lower proline content of aloe leaves. Results of the study is in accordance with Jouyban [23] reported that a stress condition increase the proline content, and Fahramand et al. [15] and Zamani et al. [41] reported that a plant in a stress condition increases in the proline content.

The results of this study (Table 4) indicate that treatment combination of manure 10 tons ha⁻¹ and urea all doses can result higher aloe average concentration than that of other combinations. These results indicate that the application of lower dosage of manure in coastal sandy soil can create inappropriate condition for plant growth of Aloe plant so it results in higher aloe concentration of the plant.

IV. Conclusions

Good working relationship between buyer and food supplier can increasing long term partnerships, improve the operation and food safety implementation as a whole for mutual benefit of all parties involved. However suggested that the degree of good working relationship that develops between buyer and food suppliers are likely to be more improved by continuous improvement and commitment among them in implementing Food Safety Management System all pre-requisite and procedure were need to be applied in all process and every non conformance issue would be need to get corrective action to avoid re-occurrence.

Results of this research indicate that:

1. Manure application in doses of 20 – 30 tons ha⁻¹ can create better chemical properties of coastal sandy soil, nevertheless urea applications in doses up to 600 kg ha⁻¹ have no result better chemical properties of coastal sandy soil.
2. Manure application in doses of 20 – 30 tons ha⁻¹ in combination with urea 300 – 400 kg ha⁻¹ can result better physiological properties of aloe plant cultivated in coastal sandy land.
3. Manure application in doses of 10 tons ha⁻¹ results proline and aloe concentration higher than that of manure application in higher doses.

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