

XIX Reunión Internacional

ACORBAT

Medellín - Colombia 2010

8 al 12 de noviembre

MEMORIAS

MEMOIRES - PROCEEDINGS



ACORBAT
INTERNACIONAL



AUGURA
ASOCIACIÓN DE BANANEROS DE COLOMBIA

XIX Reunión Internacional ACORBAT 2010
Primera Edición
Medellín - Colombia, noviembre 2010

Asociación de Bananeros de Colombia AUGURA
Calle 3 Sur No. 41-65 Ed. Banco de Occidente P. 9
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Pág. web: www.augura.com.co

ISBN: 978-958-99167-4-2

Editores: Nora Luz García Escobar - John Jairo Mira Castillo
Diseño: Nora Luz García Escobar
Impresión: Impresos Uda.

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**Asociación para la Cooperación en la Investigación y el Desarrollo
Integral de las Musáceas (banana y plátano)**

**XIX REUNIÓN INTERNACIONAL
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Physical-chemical characterization of banana varieties resistant to Black Sigatoka for industrial purposes

Caracterización físicoquímica de las variedades de banana resistentes a la Sigatoka-negra para uso industrial

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Fernanda A. Santana, Sebastião de O. e Silva, Luciana A. de Oliveira¹

Abstract

The adoption of a new banana variety resistant to black-Sigatoka depends on its agronomical and physical-chemical characteristics. The potential of a new cultivar can only be known upon evaluation. The objective of this study was to characterize seven banana varieties that were resistant to the disease by comparing them to a variety which is traditionally used by industries. The following variables were evaluated: pH, TIA, TSSITTA, total sugars, reducing sugars and non-reducing sugars, humidity, total solids and yield. The data were evaluated by single and multivariate analyses. The Thap variety showed a better performance compared to the Grande Naine variety, surpassing it, in the levels of total soluble solids, reducing sugars, total sugars and humidity. The Caipira and FHIA2 varieties also stood out. In the correlation analysis the pH was the significant and high correlation variable. The greatest diversity among these varieties occurred in regard to sugar composition and the total solids. The Grande Naine variety was found to be close to the varieties of the Gross Michel subgroup (Bucaneiro, Ambrosia and Calipso) and the Caipira variety in the cluster analysis, since they all come from the same AAA genomic group.

Key-words

Musa spp., postharvest, raw material, aptitude, multivariate analysis.

Resumen

La adopción de una nueva variedad de banano resistente a la Sigatoka negro depende de sus características agronómicas y físico químicas. Sólo mediante la evaluación es posible conocer el potencial de nuevas variedades. El objetivo del estudio fue caracterizar siete variedades de banano resistentes a la Sigatoka negro y compararlas con la variedad tradicionalmente utilizada por el sector industrial. Las variables determinadas fueron: pH, TIA, SST, SSTITA, azúcares totales, reductores, no reductores, humedad, sólidos totales y el rendimiento. Los datos fueron evaluados mediante análisis univariado y multivariado. La variedad Thap Maeo mostró un mejor desempeño que la variedad Grande Naine, superando en el contenido de sólidos solubles, azúcares reductores, totales y la humedad. También se destacaron las variedades Caipira y FHIA 2. En el análisis de correspondencias el pH es la variable de correlaciones altas y significativas. La mayor diversidad entre las variedades ocurrió en función de la composición de azúcares y sólidos totales. En análisis de agrupamiento la variedad Grande Naine está cerca de las variedades del subgrupo Gross Michel (Bucaneiro, Ambrosia y Calipso) y la variedad Caipira, ya que todos son del mismo grupo genómico AAA.

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Introduction

The low genetic variability of an agricultural cultivation of bananas represents an eminent risk of losses or decimation of the cultures, regarding diseases, such as black-Sigatoka which is caused by *Mycosphaella fijiensis* Morelet and considered to be the most severe disease in cultivated bananas. This disease, of wide geographic distribution, can generate losses of banana production greater than 50% (Mourichon, X., J. Carlier, E. Fouré, 1997).

Thus, crop management, using information on the genetic variability, should be adopted highlighting the use of resistant varieties (Cordeiro *et al.*, 2005). The worldwide banana cultivation is basically founded on one banana clone from the Cavendish subgroup, the Grande Naine (Janick, J., 199-). The problem is that this variety is highly prone to black-Sigatoka. Therefore, in order to guarantee the continuation of the banana productive chain, it is necessary that new varieties resistant to this disease can be made available.

The objective of the present study was to evaluate the physical-chemical characterization of banana varieties resistant to black-Sigatoka, recommended by Embrapa Cassava and Tropical Fruits for industrial purposes, by comparing them to the Grande Naine (Cavendish subgroup), generally used for processing.

Material and methods

Banana varieties evaluated and their characteristics were Grande Naine (subgroup Cavendish) susceptible to black-Sigatoka. Varieties resistant to black-Sigatoka according to Silva, S. O., J.A. Santos-Serejo y Z.J.M. Cordeiro (2004) and Silva *et al.* (2001): Caipira (Ibota subgroup); FHIA02 and FHIA 18 (Prata subgroup) from Federación Hondureña de Investigación

Agrícola; Thap Maeo (Mysore subgroup); Bucaneiro, Calipso and Ambrosia (Gross Michel subgroup).

The physical-chemical evaluation was carried out in stage 6 of maturation, with fruits completely yellow. Five repetitions of each variety were used, whereas each repetition originated from one single plant.

The pH was evaluated by direct reading in a pHmeter method; the total soluble solids (TSS) level was carried out by direct reading in a table refractometer; the results of the TSS were expressed in °Brix and the total titratable acidity (TIA) was carried out by titration with 0,1 N, sodium-hydroxide with the results expressed malic acid % and the sugars/acidity by the TSS/TIA ratio. The total solids and the humidity were obtained by incubator drying at 70°C until constant weight. The reducing sugars and total sugars were determined by spectrophotometry using the DNS (3,5 -Dinitrate - Salicilic), reagent, reading at 540 nm (Miller, G.L., 1959). For total sugars, hydrolysis was carried out with dilute hydrochloric-acid (0,1 N) in a heating system with an extractor. The non-reducing sugars were obtained by the difference between total sugars and reducing sugars multiplied by the 0.95 factor (conversion for sucrose). The reducing and total sugars were expressed in % of glucose and the non-reducing sugars in % of sucrose. The mass yield evaluation was obtained by gravimetry (weight of peeled banana/weight of banana with peel x 100) and the results expressed in percentage.

The experiment was installed in complete random blocks. For the obtained data, the analysis of variance was carried out and averages of the treatment were grouped by the Duncan test at 5% probability. Multivariate cluster analyses and principal component analyses techniques were carried out. The statistical analyses were carried out using the computer programs,

STATISTIC and GENE - Computer Software for Genetics and Statistics (Cruz, C.O., 2001).

Results and discussion

Physical-chemical comparative profile of the resistant varieties in comparison to the traditional varieties

It was assumed that the banana varieties with substitution potential for the Grande Naine, in the agroindustry, would be the ones that presented the highest levels of total titratable acidity, total soluble solids, reducing sugars, total sugars, highest mass yield and lowest humidity levels.

The highest number of competitive attributes were presented by the Tapae variety, showing good performance for six qualities: total soluble solids (2.8%), total titratable acidity (68.5%), reducing sugars (6.7%), total sugars (10.4%), mass yield (2.2%) and humidity (reduction of 2.0%).

The Caipira variety presented four desired characteristics compared to the Grande Naine variety, being the following: total titratable solids (2.8%), total sugars (5.9%), mass yield (12.5%) and humidity (reduction of 1.9%). The FHIA 02 variety finds itself in a similar situation with four competitive items: total titratable acidity (87%), reducing sugars (49.7%), total sugars (11.7%) and humidity (reduction of 0.4%).

The Bucaneiro variety was superior to the Grande Naine in the following aspects: total titratable acidity (23.6%), reducing sugars (20.8%) and mass yield (7.9%). The Calipso variety presented the same performance as the Bucaneiro: total titratable acidity (22.7%), reducing sugars (23.8%) and mass yield (0.7%).

The varieties FHIA 18 and Ambrosia had similar behavior when compared to the

Grande Naine. They showed to be more competitive than the traditional variety for the total titratable acidity, with increments of 46.1% (FHIA 18) and 23.5% (Ambrosia). The levels of reducing sugars were 34.8% higher than the sugars of the Grande Naine for the FHIA 18 and 13.1% for the Ambrosia.

Principal component analysis, correlation and cluster analysis

It is shown that the total titratable acidity had a negative moderate correlation with the pH. The TSS/MA ratio had a higher correlation with the TTA and pH and lower with the TSS. The total solids had a high perfect negative correlation with the pH being strongly associated with the TSS, which make up most of the solids.

The humidity correlated negatively with the pH and total solids, which makes sense in this case, once the humidity is obtained from the total solids difference. In the study of different characteristics in the chemical composition of bananas from Tenerife and Ecuador authors verified that humidity had a low correlation with the following variables: proteins, total fibers, insoluble fibers, levels of ashes, ascorbic acid, sucrose, glucose, and fructose (Forster, M.P., E.R. Rodriguez, C.D. Romera, 2002).

The reducing sugars presented a moderate negative correlation with the pH; in relation to the remaining of the variables, the correlations were low. The total sugars had a moderate positive correlation with the TSS, with the TS and with the reducing sugars. With the humidity, the correlation was moderate negative. The total sugars had a strong correlation with the sucrose and a weak one with the glucose and fructose (Forster, M.P., E.R. Rodriguez, C.D. Romera, 2002).

The non-reducing sugars presented a high negative correlation with the total sugars, and it makes sense, for the non-reducing

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sugars were determined by the difference between total and reducing sugars. The yield did not present correlation with the other evaluated variables.

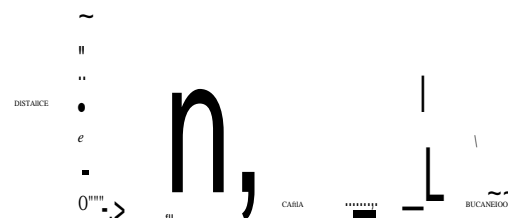
For the cluster analysis, the formation of two large variety elusters that presented some degree of similarity, was verified (Figure 1). Cluster 1 is formed by the Bucaneiro, Calipso, Ambrosia, Grande Naine and Caipira varieties. It is worth mentioning that these genotypes presented the A genome in their constitution, despite the fact of the Grande Naine and Caipira being triploids and the other three tetraploids. The association of the Bucaneiro and Calipso varieties and its proximity to the Ambrosia variety, can be observed, for the three are complete siblings, that is, Gros Michel hybrids, progenies of the same parental genotypes. In cluster 2, the FHIA 18, FHIA 2 and Thap Maeo can be found. The varieties FHIA 18, FHIA 2 and Thap Maeo are probably associated, for presenting the B genome. It was verified, by the Mahalanobis distance (D^2) that the varieties closest to the Grande Naine were the Ambrosia and the Bucaneiro and the most distant variety was the Thap Maeo.

In comparison to the traditional variety, the Thap Maeo presented the highest number of advantages for the processing. The Caipira and FHIA 02 also presented a series of interesting competitive attributes.

Within the studied varieties the pH was associated to the total tritable acidity, the TSSmA ratio, to the total solids, the humidity and to the reducing sugars.

The greatest diversity among the varieties occurred in regard to their sugar composition and total solids. In the eluster analysis of the varieties, the Grande Naine was found to be elose to the Gross Michel (Bucaneiro, Ambrosia and Calipso) subgroup and the Caipira variety.

Figure 1. Cluster analysis of different banana varieties



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