RESEARCH NOTE
Clay as Potassium Permanganate Carrier for Banana Storage in Indonesia

Edi Santosa[χ] and Winarso D. Widodo

Department Agronomy and Horticulture, Faculty of Agriculture, Bogor Agricultural University. Jl. Meranti Kampus IPB Darmaga, Bogor 16680 West Java, Indonesia

[χ] Author for correspondence. Email : editodai@yahoo.com; Phone/fax:+62-251-8629353

Keywords: clay powder, absorbent, post harvest, Raja Bulu

ABSTRACT

Clay is abundant in Indonesia. The objective of this experiment was to study usage of clay as potassium permanganate ($KMnO_4$) carrier during storage of banana var. Raja Bulu. Three levels of clay powder were used as treatment, i.e., 10 g, 30 and 50 g for six fingers of banana with three replicates. Results showed that clay powder effective as $KMnO_4$ carrier for storage of banana var. Raja Bulu. Level of clay powder 30 and 50 g significantly increased banana shelf life as indicated by skin color and hardness by 18 days after treatments, as compared to the control. Application of 30 g clay powder resulted in optimum banana storage as compared to other treatments. This experiment indicates that clay powder effective as KMnO4 carrier.