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Dear Eni Kovacs,

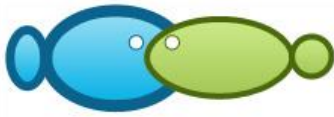
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Density and types of probiotic bacteria in filter media with different number of bioballes in culturing media of silver pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) with recirculation system

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Abstract. Cultivation intensification with a recirculation system tends to have a high stocking density and a large amount of feed, so that feed residue, metabolic waste, and oxygen consumption also increase. To speed up the decomposition of feed residue and metabolic waste, filtering is necessary, namely by means of a bioball. This study aims to analyze the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, to improve water quality and the optimal number of bioballs for bacterial living media. This study used a completely randomized design, 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications. As the level of treatment in this study are; A = No bioball (control), B = 35 bioballs / filter container, C = 45 bioballs / filter container, D = 55 bioballs / filter container and E = 65 bioballs / filter container respectively. The silver pompano fish measuring 10 - 12.55 cm and body weight of 24.3 - 28.9 grams with a density of 1 fish / 4 L (20 fish / 80 L) were cultivated for 56 days. During fish rearing, they are fed with Megami GR2 pellets with a composition of 46% protein, 10% fat, 2% crude fiber and 10% moisture content, 3 times a day ad libitum. As a response to the test are: the type and density of bacteria in the bioball, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, total ammonium nitrogen, nitrite and nitrate. The research data were analyzed statistically ANOVA ($P < 0.05$), Newman Keuls's advanced test and multiple regression models using SPSS 17.0. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioballs / filter containers with a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of $667.67 \pm 1.53 \times 10^5$ CFU / mL. The amount of bioball affected the bacterial density by 31.1%, nitrogen absorption by fish 16.5% and filter media by 85.2%. The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter* sp., *Shewanella* sp. and *Nitratireductor* sp. 15 ‰ salinity culturing media using a filter substrate of 55 bioballs / filter containers in the recirculation system gave the best bacterial density and water quality (28.6 - 29.1 °C, pH 7.6 - 7.8, DO 6.3 - 6.7 mg / L, TAN 0.06 - 1.57 mg / L, nitrite 0.120 - 0.861 mg / L and nitrate 0.93 - 3.07 mg / L).

Key Words: bioball, bacterial density, probiotics, water quality.

Introduction. Silver pompano fish is a marine aquaculture species that is relatively new in Indonesia. However, the demand for this fish continues to increase, especially from the international market. These fish include fish species that have high adaptability, are easy to cultivate and have important economic value. The price of silver pompano for consumption reaches around Rp. 60,000, - / kg at local market and Rp. 200,000, - / kg for export commodities (Mo, 2017). Since 2015 silver pompano has become a leading commodity in marine cultivation fisheries. Production of silver pompano in 2015 reached 1900 tons, and each year it is targeted to increase production to reach 31.5% per year (Prahadi, 2015).

The production target for the silver pompano commodity can be achieved through intensification of cultivation. Intensive cultivation tends to be with a high stocking density, resulting in narrow space for fish, increased competition for oxygen and feed, so that the potential for fish to be stressed is greater, as a result, fish growth will be hampered. High density also accelerates the decline in water quality due to the accumulation of metabolic waste and feed residue, so that it has a major effect on growth.

Naturally nitrogen from fish culture waste produces ammonia (NH_3) from feed residue and fish metabolism, this can result in a buildup of organic matter which causes a

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decrease in water quality (Putra and Pamukas, 2011; Prayogo et al., 2012). One of the technologies in fisheries to maintain water quality in order to remain suitable for aquatic organisms and to support the optimization of water utilization is the cultivation of recirculation systems. The recirculation system is able to reduce the level of ammonia concentration, to within the range of 31-43% (Djokosetiyanto et al., 2006; Putra and Pamukas, 2011).

According to Lekang (2008) and Fadhil et al. (2010) the use of a recirculation system has advantages including more efficient water use, flexibility in cultivation locations, more hygiene, relatively small space or land requirements, ease of controlling and maintaining cultivated organisms, ease of maintaining water quality, environmentally friendly, safe from pollution. that occurs outside the aquatic environment and can be carried out all the time.

Recirculating Aquaculture System technology can also be used to control dissolved solids adapted to the aquaculture system and filter substrate (Fadhil et al, 2010). The filter substrate serves to filter dissolved solids. The use of the right type and filter material will determine the success of fish rearing in the recirculation system because it will determine the growth of non-pathogenic bacteria on the material. Currently, biological filter substrates are widely used because they are more environmentally friendly.

There are many biological filter materials that can be used, one of which is the bioball. Bioball is spherical, with a diameter of 4 cm, a specific area of $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 / \text{m}^3$ with a cavity priority of 0.92, made of PVC material (Said, 2002). Bioball is a breeding ground for various bacteria that are needed to process toxins in the water. Bioball functions as a physiological filter which is a growing medium for bacteria that can remove ammonia contained in water (Alfia et al., 2013). The bacteria that grow on the bioball are nitrifying bacteria (*Nitrosomonas* sp and *Nitrobacter* sp). *Nitrosomonas* has a role in oxidizing ammonia to nitrite, while *Nitrobacter* has a role in oxidizing nitrite to nitrate, this nitrate will become plankton for fish natural food (O-fish, 2012).

Several studies related to improving water quality in aquaculture with recirculation and hydroponic systems have been carried out, such as; Mulyadi and Pamukas (2013) use a recirculation system in nursery and rearing of fish (*Mystus nemurus*); Alfia et al. (2013) used a recirculation system with a bioball filter in *Tilapia* (*Oreochromis niloticus*) culture; Adamu et al. (2014) studied the effect of different feed formulations on the recirculation system prototype container on the histology of the liver and kidneys of male hybrid catfish (*Heterobranchus bidorsalis*) with female *Clarias gariepinus*; Nelvia et al. (2015) studied the addition of a bioball to the maintenance media filter on the survival and growth of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) fry. Based on the description above, a series of studies on the number and types of bacteria and the improvement of water quality in the cultivation of recirculation systems with different numbers of bioballs are needed. This research is aimed at analyzing the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, improving water quality (temperature, pH, DO, TAN). , nitrite and nitrate) and analyzed the optimal amount of bioball for the live medium of bacteria.

Material and Method

Location and time of research. This research was conducted in January - July 2020, which was carried out in several laboratories, namely: fish maintenance was carried out at the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL), Jalan Trans Bareleng Jembatan III, Setokok Island, Setokok Village, Bulang District, Batam, water quality analysis at the Laboratory of Fish and Environmental Health Testing at the Batam Marine Aquaculture Fisheries Agency (BPBL), Nitrogen analysis in the Aquaculture Environmental Laboratory, identifying types of bacteria and calculating the number of bacterial densities in the fish and environmental health examiners of the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL) PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test at PT. Genetics Science Indonesia, West Jakarta.

Materials and tools. The main ingredients that will be used in this research are as follows: the test animals used in this study are the seeds of pomfret (*T. blochii*,

Lacepede) originating from the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL) Batam, with a size of 10-11 cm. 300 heads. As the test feed, the commercial pellet pellet "GR-2" contains 46% protein, 10% fat, 13% ash content, 2% crude fiber, and 10% moisture content. The test feed was obtained from the Batam Marine Cultivation Center (BPBL). A round bucket with a diameter of 60 cm, a height of 45 cm, a volume of 150 L as a research vessel. Bioball with a diameter of 4 cm, specific area $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 / \text{m}^3$ with a cavity priority of 0.92, is made of PVC as a filter substrate (Figure 1a). As a filter container is a PVC filter gutter measuring 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm.

Experimental design. The research method used in this study was an experimental method completely randomized design, 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications (Steel and Torrie, 1993). As a factor in the study was the difference in the number of bioballs. The treatment level determination in this study is based on the best research results by Nelvia et al., (2015) that the use of 50 bioballs / gutters can improve water quality and provide 100% survival, weight growth 2.605 grams, length growth 1.48 mm on maintenance. goldfish fry (*Carassius auratus*) in closed recirculation. So that the treatment in this study are; A = No bioball (control) filter, B = 35 bioballs / filter container, C = 45 bioballs / filter container, D = 55 bioballs / filter container and E = 65 bioballs / filter container.

Research procedure. The silver pompano fish measuring 10 - 12.55 cm and body weight of 24.3 - 28.9 grams were obtained from the Batam Marine Cultivation Center (BPBL), adapted for 7 days before being used as test fish. Fish rearing containers use a closed recirculation system. Into each rearing container is filled with sea water with a salinity of 15 ‰. The rearing container is connected to a 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm PVC gutter as a filter container, which is placed at the top of the fish-raising containers. Then the water from the filter gutter will flow back through the PVC pipe with a diameter of 2.5 cm to the rearing tub of pomfret fish. Water from the fish rearing container will be flowed into the filter media (gutter) with the number of bioballs according to the treatment (Figure 1b) for each gutter according to the best findings of Nelvia et al., (2015) and using a water pump that has a power of 18 watts. After the water passes through the filter media (gutter), it will be returned to the fish-raising tub through the drain pipe in the filter container. In the maintenance medium, KP-SUPER N (*Nitrosomonas* sp. and *Nitrobacter* sp.) Trademark starter bacteria were added at a dose of 2.5 ml / 200 L / week (Hartini et al., 2013), to accelerate bacterial growth in the bioball.



Figure 1. a. Bioball used as a filter substrate, b. The design of the Bawal Bintang aquaculture recirculation system.

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The test fish that have been adapted to the maintenance media are then randomly placed into 15 rearing containers. The fish were given commercial feed with 46% protein content, 10% fat, 13% ash content, 2% crude fiber, and 10% moisture content by adsatiation at 07:00, 12.00 and 17.00 WIB.

Measured response. The responses measured in this study were: density and type of bacteria in the filter container were observed at the beginning, middle and end of the study (SNI.01-2332.3-2006 and SNI.01-2332.3-2006); temperature, pH and salinity

were observed every day, dissolved oxygen (DO), Total Ammonia Nitrogen (TAN), Nitrite (NO₂) and Nitrate (NO₃) were observed every week. Water quality measurement procedures refer to SNI in the Public Works Service (1990).

Data analysis. Bacterial density data were analyzed according to the RAL model (Steel and Torrie, 1993). To determine the effect of salinity on each measured variable, a diversity analysis was performed using SPSS 17.0 software. If P < 0.05, the Newman-Keuls further test was performed to see the differences between treatments. Water quality data were analyzed descriptively using Microsoft Excel application and displayed in tables and graphs. To see the relationship between the number of bioballs and the density of bacteria with water quality, regression analysis was carried out.

Results and Discussion

Density of bacteria in the filter container. The results of bacterial density observations carried out on Plate Count Agar (PCA) media using the Total Plate Count method can be seen in Figure 2.

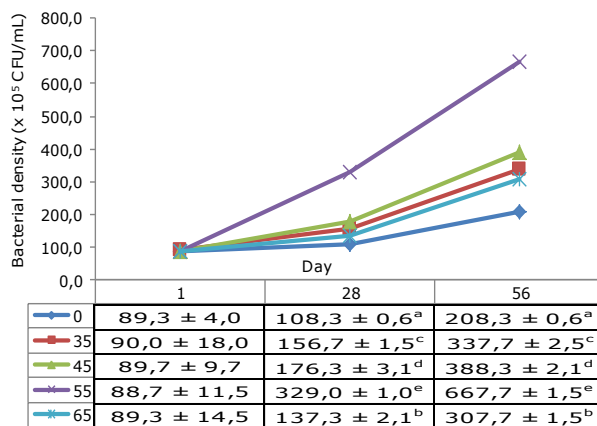


Figure 2. Bacterial density in all treatments during the study

Figure 2 shows that the bacterial density from day 1 to day 28 in treatment 0, 35, 45 and 65 bioballs / filter containers are relatively similar and insignificant increase, in contrast to treatment 55 bioballs / filter containers a significant increase of bacteria than other treatments. This is due to the fact that the bacteria and silver pompano fish are still adapting to the media in which they live, besides that the nutrients that come from the remaining feed and fish feces are still not sufficient to support the maximum bacterial growth. After the 28th day the number of bacteria in all treatments continued to increase reaching a maximum peak on the 56th day. This is due to the increase in organic matter from fecal matter and fish feed along with the growth of the silver pompano, which is a source of bacterial nutrition, thereby increasing the rate of bacterial development. In accordance with the opinion of Sunarto (2003), dissolved organic matter is needed by living bacteria, then Sidharta (2000) explains that organic material contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia, and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth. Giving KP SUPER N which is given routinely in a cultivation container causes the bacteria to continue to grow because of the availability of organic materials that can be used optimally. The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment of 55 bioballs / filter containers.

The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment of 55 bioballs / filter containers at the end of the study, namely 667.7 x 10⁵ CFU / mL, this is because the

number of bioballs is 55 in a filter container measuring 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm for culture media with volume 80 L, is the optimal amount as a living medium for bacteria. This is because the number of bioballs with the size of the filter container is in a balanced state, thus providing an opportunity for oxygen to enter the bioball cavity and bacteria to get sufficient oxygen. In accordance with the opinion of Nut (2009) and Nelvia et al. (2015) which states that the location of the bioball which is not too dense provides an opportunity for oxygen to enter the bioball cavity so that the bacteria attached to the bioball get sufficient oxygen, if the oxygen obtained by the bacteria is sufficient then the bacteria will grow a lot in the bioball cavity and work more optimally.

The lowest bacterial density was found in treatment A (without bioball), which was 208.3×10^5 CFU / mL, this was due to the filter without using bioball and without the addition of starter bacteria (KP SUPER N) causing limited live media for bacteria and no additional nutrient availability. for the growth and development of bacteria. The low density of bacteria when using the highest number of bioballs (65 bioballs / filter container) is due to the large number of bioballs for the filter container size of 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm, so that the location of the bioballs is very tightly positioned and leaves no empty space. According to Nelvia et al., (2015) the amount of bioball that is too dense in the gutter can cause bacteria in the bioball cavity to not live if there is a lack of oxygen supply, the performance of the bioball filter decreases so that the process of decomposing organic matter by nitrifying bacteria does not run.

The biofilter system is the removal of ammonia, ammonia will accumulate and reach toxic levels if it is not transferred by a nitrification process where the process is first that ammonia is oxidized to toxic nitrite, then to nitrate, which is relatively non-toxic. The above process involves Nitrosomonas and Nitrobacter bacteria. Bacteria grow like a film on the surface of the material (biofilter container) or adhere to organic particles. Biofilter consists of a medium with a large surface for the growth of nitrite bacteria. In the recirculation system, the bacteria plays a role in converting toxic substances (ammonia) to non-toxic substances (nitrates). The performance of bacteria in the biofilter system is marked by an increase in the average BOD value in the culture medium (Nurhidayat et al., 2012). The more bioballs that are used, the more opportunities there are for bacteria to stick, but too much use can also make bacteria die, due to the lack of oxygen received by bacteria (Nelvia et al., 2015).

ANOVA results showed that the number of bioballs had an effect on the density of bacteria on day 28 and 56. The Newman Keuls range study test gave the results of differences in bacterial density between treatments. The results of the regression analysis between the number of bioballs and bacterial density provide the following regression equation:

$$Y = 227.9 + 3,851X$$

Information: Y = bacterial density, X = number of bioballs, r = 0.557 and R2 = 0.311

The results of the regression analysis showed that the number of bioballs had a positive correlation with bacterial density (r = 0.557), this means that the number of bacteria in the filter container increased with the increase in the number of bioballs. The increase in the number of bacteria in the filter container was influenced by the number of bioballs by 31.1% and 68.9%, which is thought to be influenced by the content of organic matter. Nelvia et al (2015) stated that the bioball is a breeding ground for various bacteria needed in the breakdown of organic matter. According to Sunarto (2003) dissolved organic matter is needed by bacteria to live. Furthermore, according to Sidharta, (2000) organic matter contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia, and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth.

Identification of bacteria in filter containers. Based on the observations, there were 7 pure bacterial isolates. The identification of bacteria against the isolates found in the filter media was carried out by physical, biochemical and sensitivity tests to see which bacteria had the greatest inhibition zone against pathogenic bacteria.

Physics test. The results of observations of color, shape, edge, elevation and gram of the seven isolates found are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Observation Results of Bacterial Characteristics

No	Isolate	Colony				Cell		Treatment
		Color	Shape	Edge	Elevation	Gram Type	Shape	
1	A1	Yellow	Circular	Entire	Umbonate	Negative	Stem	P ₂ U ₁
2	A2	Beige	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₀ U ₃
3	A3	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₂
4	A4	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₁
5	A5	Beige	Filamentous	Entire	Filiform	Negative	Stem	P ₁ U ₁
6	A6	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₂
7	A7	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₃

Table 1 shows that all bacterial isolates have gram-negative, entire edges and are rod-shaped. The dominant bacterial colony was white (4 isolates), 2 isolates were beige and 1 isolate was yellow. Colonies were circular / round (6 isolates) and filamentous (1 isolate). The elevation of the dominant bacterial colony was raised (5 isolates), 1 umbonate isolate and 1 filiform isolate.

Biochemical test. The results of observations of the Catalase, Oxidase, Motility, O / F, Indol and TSIA tests are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Bacterial Biochemical Test Results

No.	Isolate	Biochemical Characteristics						Treatment
		Catalase	Oxidase	Motility	O / F	Indole	TSIA	
1	A1	+	+	+	-	-	A/K	P ₂ U ₁
2	A2	+	+	-	F	-	K/K	P ₀ U ₃
3	A3	+	-	+	O	-	A/K	P ₃ U ₂
4	A4	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₁
5	A5	+	+	+	F	+	A/A	P ₁ U ₁
6	A6	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₂
7	A7	+	+	-	F	-	A/A	P ₃ U ₃

Information: O = oxidative, F = fermentative, A / K = alkaline acid, K / K = alkaline, A / A = acid

Table 2 shows that all bacterial isolates have positive catalase because these bacteria have a catalase enzyme with a reaction in the form of gas bubbles at the time of dropping H₂O₂. According to Stoica (2016), catalase is an enzyme that is owned by the majority of bacteria and is involved in the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen. Hydrogen peroxide and oxygen are used for electron transport in the fermentation of both aerobic and facultative aerobic bacteria.

Oxidase tests A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6 and A7 are positive because of the color change on the oxidase paper which indicates oxidase activity, while A3 is negative. Five isolates (A1, A3, A4, A5 and A6) showed motile results in the motility test due to the spread of bacterial growth on the SIM medium and did not grow on the part of the bacteria puncture site. The O / F test results showed no color change in the paraffin-covered media and the color change on the exposed media. Five bacterial isolates (A2, A4, A5, A6 and A7) were observed to be fermentative because the tube without paraffin and the tube filled with paraffin changed color to yellow. According to Fahri (2008) in the O / F test, oxidative organisms occur when a color change is seen in the open media, while fermentative organisms can be indicated by seeing no color change in the closed media.

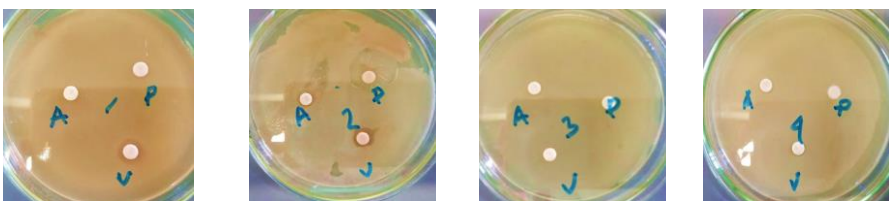
The indole test shows 6 isolates (A1, A2, A3, A4, A6 and A7) give negative results (-) marked with a yellow color on the surface of the media which means that the bacteria

are unable to break down the amino acid tryptophan, and no red ring is formed on the surface of the media. After dropping the Kovac reagent on SIM media. According to Acharya (2012), the indole test was carried out to determine the ability of bacteria to break down amino acid tryptophan to form indole compounds. Tryptophan is hydrolyzed by tryptophanase to produce three possible end products, one of which is indole. Indole production is detected by Kovac or Ehrlich's reagent which is composed of 4-p-benzaldehyde dimethylamino, this reagent reacts with indole to produce a red compound. A positive reaction is indicated if there is a red color on the surface of the medium which indicates that the bacteria are able to break down the amino acid tryptophan. In the TSIA test, 4 isolates (A4, A5, A6 and A7) showed acidic properties (A / A), 2 isolates (A1 and A3) were acid alkaline and 1 isolate (A2) was alkaline.

Sensitivity test. The sensitivity test to pathogenic bacteria was carried out after observing the physical and biochemical tests of the seven isolates. This test aims to find probiotic bacteria candidates for PCR testing. The results of the sensitivity test on 7 isolates are presented in Figure 3. Inhibition zones produced by seven bacterial isolates found in different filter containers. The bacteria in isolate A1 were able to inhibit the growth of *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period with a temperature of 37 °C. This is indicated by the formation of a clear area around the blank disk, but it is unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* and *Pseudomonas* bacteria. After an incubation period of 48 hours the inhibition zone remains clear, which indicates that these bacteria can kill (bacteriocidal) *Vibrio* bacteria. Similar to the bacteria in isolate A2, a clear zone was formed around the blank disk against *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 48-hour incubation period, this indicates that A2 bacteria are bacteriocidal against *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio*, but cannot inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* bacteria.

Bacteria in A3 and A4 isolates were unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, it was seen that no inhibition zone was formed on the blank disk. In A5 and A7 isolates an inhibition zone occurred against *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period, but during the 48-hour incubation period, the clear area became cloudy, indicating that these bacteria were only able to inhibit (bacteriostatic) the three pathogenic bacteria. In A6 isolate a clear zone was also formed during the 48-hour incubation period against *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, but no inhibition zone was formed against *Pseudomonas* bacteria. This indicates that the A6 bacteria are able to kill (bacteriocidal) *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria.

This is in line with the opinion of Farlex (2005) which states that a material is said to be sensitive to bacteria characterized by the presence of an inhibition zone around the blank disk. Furthermore, according to Dwyana and Murniati (2020) this area of inhibition is formed due to the presence of bioactive compounds contained in microbes that produce exoenzymes that function to break down organic matter and also excrete hydrolytic enzymes, proteases, lipases, and cellulases so that they are able to hydrolyze polysaccharides as a carbon source. and electron donors.



A1 ; Inhibition	A2 ; Inhibition	A3 ; Inhibition	A4 ; Inhibition
A = 0, P = 0 and	A = 0, P = 8,88 mm and	A = 0, P = 0 and	A = 0, P = 0
V = 3,74 mm	V = 3,49 mm	V = 0	and V = 0
(bacteriocidal)	(bacteriocidal)		



A5 ; Inhibition	A6 ; Inhibition	A7 ; Inhibition
A = 4,32 mm,	A = 1,62 mm, P = 0	A = 3,15 mm,
P = 3,87 mm and	and V = 3,8 mm	P = 2,58 mm and
V = 5,24 mm	(bacteriocidal)	V = 2,20 mm

Figure 3. Sensitivity test of bacterial isolates against pathogenic bacteria
Description: A: Aeromonas, P: Pseudomonas, V: Vibrio

Madigan et al., (2012), grouped bacteria based on their selective toxicity, antimicrobial compounds had 3 kinds of effects on microbial growth, namely; 1. Bacteriostatic, provides an effect by inhibiting growth but not killing. Bacteriostatic compounds inhibit protein synthesis or bind to ribosomes; 2. Bacteriocidal, gives effect by killing cells but not cell lysis or cell breakdown. 3. Bacteriolytic, causing cells to become lysis or cell breakdown. Furthermore, Dwyana and Murniati (2020) stated that the clear zone formed during the 24-hour incubation period on disc paper during the sensitivity test indicated that the bacteria was bacteriostatic, while 48 hours indicated that the bacteria was classified as bacteriocidal.

According to Jannata (2014) the classification of bacterial growth inhibition responses, based on the inhibition zone consists of 4, namely; weak response (diameter ≤ 5 mm), medium (diameter 5-10 mm), strong (diameter 10-20 mm), and very strong (≥ 20 mm). Based on this classification isolates A5, A6 and A7 were classified as having a weak response to Aeromonas, isolate A2 had a moderate response and isolates A5 and A7 had a weak response to Pseudomonas bacteria. Furthermore, A5 isolate had a moderate response to Vibrio bacteria, while isolates A1, A2, A6 and A7 were classified as having a weak response. According to Sugita et al. (1996), this is because these bacteria are able to produce antimicrobial compounds which are a form of competition for nutrients and energy. This mechanism is believed to be able to inhibit the growth of pathogens in the filter container. The inhibiting compounds are very diverse, including siderophores, bacteriocins, lysozymes, proteases, hydrogen peroxidase, and organic acids. According to Rengpipat et al (2000) siderophore is a compound with a low molecular weight (<1500) and is a specific agent to bind ferric ions and can dissolve iron precipitates and change them into the form required for microbial growth. Its ability to form siderophores causes other organisms, especially aquatic animal pathogens, to be unable to obtain these elements and become inhibited.

Based on the results of observations on the inhibition zone diameter and inhibition power, the bacterial isolates selected as candidates for probiotic bacteria were isolates A1, A2 and A6 which were classified as bacteriocidal, then coded MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3. Furthermore, to determine the type of the three bacteria, DNA analysis was carried out using PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction).

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test

The results of amplification and visualization of DNA fragments of the 16S rRNA gene. The genomic DNA that had been isolated and extracted from isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3, then amplified the 16S rRNA markers using PCR technique. PCR analysis of the 3 bacteria isolates used primary base 27F forward: AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG and revers 1492R: TACGGYTA CCTTGTTACGACTT. The analysis results showed positive with the formation of bands with a total molecular weight (bp) of 1000 - 1500 bp. The results of amplified DNA visualization using 27F and 1492R electrophoresed with UV light are presented in Figure 4. The amplified fragment has a wavelength of 1227-1372 bp, after seeing Geneious it is known that isolate MUL_1 produces a single band that is clearly visible with a molecular weight of 1331 bp (base pair), MUL_2 1227 bp and MUL_3 1372 bp according to the primary amplification size 27F and 1492R used by comparison using 1 Kb Ladder DNA. The size of this size is in accordance with the expected size of the bacterial 16S rRNA genes, which is between 1300 - 1500 bp (Seprianto et al., 2017).

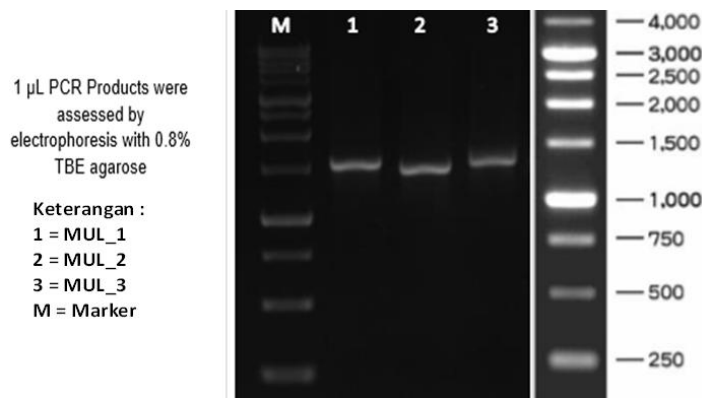


Figure 4. Results of Universal DNA-PCR Amplification on Agarose Gel

The base pairs obtained were combined and trimmed using Bioedit 7.0 software. DNA sequencing analysis gives the following results for the nucleotide and fasta sequences:

A1. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_1

- Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1331 bp

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1 CTTCGGGTTA GCGACATGCC TTCCGGGTAAC CCAACTCCCA TGGTGTGACG GCGCGTGTGT
61 ACAAGGCCCG GGAACGTATT CACCGCGGCA TGCTGATCCG CGATTACTAG CGATTCCCAAC
121 TTCATGCACC CGAGTTCGCAG AGTGCAATCC GAACGTGAGAT GGTFTTTTGGG GATTAGCTCG
181 ACCTCCGGST CTCGCTGCC ACTGTCACCA CCATGTAGC AGGTGTGTAG CCCAGCCGT
241 AAGGGCCATG AGGACTTGAC GTCATCCCCA CCTTCCCTC GCCTATCAC GGGCAGTCCC
301 CTFAGAGTGC CCAACTTAAG GCTGGCAACT AAGGGCGAGG GTTGGCGTCG TFGCGGGACT
361 TAACCCAAJA TCTCACGACA CGAGCTGACG ACAGCCATGC AGCACCTGTC TFGGTCCAG
421 CCTAACGAA GGATACGTC TCGGTATCC GCGACCAGA TGTCAAGGGC TGGTAAGGTT
481 CTGCGCGTGG CTTCGAATTA AACCATATGC TCCACCGGT GTGCGGGCCC CCGTCAATTC
541 CTTTGTAGTT TAACTTCGG ACCGTACTCC CCAGGCGGGA AGCTTAATGC GTTAACTCGG
601 CCACGACAGG GTAACCTGCG CACGGCTAG CTTCATCTGT TTACGGGGG GACTACACAGG
661 GTATCTAATC CTGTTTGCCT CCCACGCTT CGCACCTCAG CGTCAGTATC GAGCCAGTGA
721 GCGCGCTTCG CCCTGTGTGT TCCCTCGAAT ATCTAGGAAT TTCACCTCTA CACICGGAAAT
781 TCCACGCGCC TCTCTCGAAC TCTAGATGCG CAGTATAGA GGCAGTCCG GGGTGTAGCC
841 CCGGGATTTC ACCCTAACT GACCGATCCG CCTACGCGCG CTTTACGCC AGTAATTCGG
901 AACACCGCTA GCCCCCTCG TATTACCGCG GCTGCTGGCA CGAAGTTAGC CGGGGCTTCT
961 TCCTCCGTTA CCGCTATAT CTTCACCGGT GAAAGAGCTT TACAACCTTA GGGCCTTCAT
1021 CACTCACCGG GCATGGCTGG ATCAGGCTTG CGCCCATGT CCAATATTC CCACGTGTCG
1081 CTCCTGATGG AGTCTGGGCC GTGCTCAGT CCGCAGTGG CTGATCATCC TCTCAGACCA
1141 GCTACGATC GTGCGCTTGG TGAGCTTATA CCTCACCAAC TAGCTAATCA GACATGGGCT
1201 CATCTAATC CGATAAATCT TTCTCCCGAA GGCAGTATAC GGTATTAGTT CAAGTTTCCC
1261 TTAGTATATC GTTAGAGCTA GGTAGATCC CATGCATTAC TCACCCGCTT CCGCGTCCCC
1321 CGAGGGGGGG C

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□ Fasta

> MUL_1

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CTTGGCGTTAGCGCACTGCCTTCGGGTAACCAACTCCCATGGTGTGACGGGCGGTGTGTACAAGGCCCGGGAACGTATT
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GCGTTGCTTCAATTAACCACTGCTCCACCGCTTGTGCGGGCCCCGTCAATCTCTTGTAGTTTTAATCTTTCGACCGGTA
CTCCCAGGCGGGAAGCTTAATGCTTAACTGCGCCACCGACAGTAAACCTGCCGACGGCTAGCTTCCATCGTTTACGGC
GTGGACTACCGGATCTAATCTGTTTGTCTCCACGCTTTCGCACCTCAGCGTCAATCGAGCCAGTGGAGCCGCTT
CGCCACTGGTGTCTCGAATATACGAATTCACCTTACACTCGAATTCACCTCAGCTCTCTCGAACTTAGATCGGC
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TAAITTCGAAACAACGCTAGCCCTTCTGATTAACCGGGCTGCTGGCAGAAAGTTAGCCGGGCTTCTTCTCCGGTTACCG
TCAITATCTTACCGGTTGAAAGAGCTTTACAACCTAGGGCCTTATCACTACGCGGCGATGGCTGGATCAGGCTTGCGCC
CATTGTCCAATATCCCACTGCTGCCTCCGTAAGGAGTCTGGGCGGTGTCTCAGTCCAGTGTGGCTGATCATCTCTCAG
ACCAGTACTGATCGTCCGCTTGTGAGCCTTACCTCAACACTAGCTAATCAGATCGGCTCATTAATCCGATAAT
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CACCGTCTGCCGCTCCCCGAGGGGGCGC

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A2. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_2

□ Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1227 bp

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1 GTTAGACTAC CTACTCTGG TGCAACAAAC TCCCATGGTG TGACGGGCGG TGTGTACAAG
61 GCCCGGGAAC GTATTCCAGC CGGCATTCTG ATCCCGGATT ACTAGCGATT CCGACTTCAT
121 GGACTCCGAGT TGCAGACTCC AATCCGGACT ACGATCGGCT TTTTGTAGAT AGCATCCTAT
181 CGCTAGGATG CAACCCCTTG TACCGACCAT TGTAGCACGT GGTAGCCCT GCGCGTAAGG
241 CCCATGATGA CTGACGCTCG TCCCGCCCTT CCTCCAGTGT GTCACCTGCA CTATCCPTAA
301 AGTCCCATC CGAAATGCTG GCAAGTAAAG AAGAGGGTGT CCGCTGTGTC GGGCACTAAC
361 CCAACATCTC ACGACAGCAG CTGACGACAG CCATSGAGCA CCTGTATCTA GATTCGCCAA
421 GGCACCAATC CATCTCTGGA AAGTTCCTAG TATGTCAAGG CCAGGTAAGG TTCTTCGCGT
481 TGCATCGAAT TAAACCAAT GCTCCACGCG TTGTGCGGGC CCCGCTGACT TCATTTGAGT
541 TTTAGTCTTG CACCCPTACT CCCCAGGCGG TCTACTTATC GCGTATGCTG CGCCACTAAA
601 GCCTCAAAGC CCCCACGCGG TAGTAGACAT CGTRTACGCG ATGGACTACC AGGGTATCTA
661 ATCCCTGATC CTCCCATATC TTTCGTACCT CAGGCTCAGT ATTAGGCCAG ATGGGCGCT
721 TCGCCATCGG TATTCCTCCA GATCTCTACG CATTTCACCG CTACACCTGG AATTCACCA
781 TCCTCTCCCA TACTCTAGCC ATCCAGTATC GAATGCAATT CCCAAGTAA GCTCGGGGAT
841 TTCGATTTG ACTTAATATG CCGCTTACG AGCTTTACG CCCAGTAAAT CGGATTAAGC
901 CTCCGACCCCT CATCTATACC GCGGCTGCTG GCACAGAGT AGCCGGTCT TATTCGCGA
961 GTAACGPTCA CTATCCAGTA GTATTAAATC TAGTAGCCCT CTCCTCGCTT AAAGTGCCTT
1021 ACAACGATAA GGCTTCTTC ACACACGCGG CATGCTGGA TCAGGGTTC CCCCATTGTC
1081 CAATATPCCC CACTGCTGCC TCCCGTAGA GTCTGGGCGG TGTCTCAGTC CCAGTGTGGC
1141 GGATCAATCT CTCAGACCCG CTCACAGATC TCGCCTTGGT AGGCCTTAC CCCACCAACT
1201 AGCTAACTCC ACTTAGCTCC ATCTATT

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□ Fasta

> MUL_2

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GTTAGACTACCTACTTCTGGTGAACAAACTCCCATGGTGTGACGGGCGGTGTGTACAAGGCCCGGGAACGTATTCACCGC
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TGAGATTAGCATCCTACTCGTAGTGAACAACCTTTGTACCGACCATTGTAGCAGCTGTGTAGCCCTGGCCGTAAGGGCCA
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AAGGAAAAGGGTTGCGCTGTTGCGGGACTTAACCAACATCTACGACACGAGCTGACGACAGCCATGCAGCACCTGTAT
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GCTCGCACCTCTGTATTACCGGCTGCTGCACAGAGTTAGCCGGTCTATTCTGCGAGTAACGTCACACTATCCAGTA
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AGGGTTCCCCCATGTTCCAATATTTCCCACTGCTGCCTCCCGTAGGAGTCTGGGCCGTGTCTCAGTCCCAGTGTGGCCGA
 TCATCCTCTCAGACCCGCTACAGATGCTGCCTTGGTAGGCCCTTACCCCACTAGCTAATCCGACTTAGGCTCATCTA
 TT

A3. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_3

Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1372 bp

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1   AAGGTTAAGC  TATCTACTTC  TGGTGCAGCC  CACTCCCATG  GTGTGACGGG  CCGTGTGTAC
61  AAGGCCCGGG  AACGATATCA  CCGTGGCATT  CTGATCCAGG  ATFACTAGCG  ATFCCGACTF
121 CATGGAGTCG  AGTTGCAGAC  TCCAATCCGG  ACTACGACCA  GCTTTATGGG  ATTAGCTCCA
181 CCTCGCGGCT  TCGCAACCOE  CTGTACTGAC  CATTGTAGCA  CGTGTGTAGC  CCTACTCGTA
241 AGGGCCATGA  TGACCTGACG  TCGTCCCGAC  CTCCTCCGGG  TTTATCACCG  GCAGTCTCCC
301 TAAATTTCCC  GGCATGACCC  GCTGGCAAGT  AAGGATAGGG  GTTGGCTCG  TTGGGGACT
361 TAACCCAACA  TTTCACAACA  CGAGCTGACG  ACAGCCATGC  AGCACCTGTC  TCACAGTTC
421 CGAAGGCAGT  GAAGCATCTC  TCGTAAATTC  TGTGGATGTC  AAGAGTAGGT  AAGGTTCTTC
481 GCGTTGCAFC  GAATTAAGC  ACATGCTCCA  CCGTGTGGC  GGCCCCCGG  CAATTCATF
541 GAGTTTAAAC  CTTGGCGCGG  TACTCCCGAG  GCGGTCTACT  TAATGCGTTA  GCTTGAGAGC
601 CCAGTGTTCG  AGACACCAA  CTCCGAGTAG  ACATCGTTTA  CGGCGTGGAC  TACCAGGGTA
661 TCTAATPCCTG  TTTGCTCCCG  ACGTTCCTGT  GCTGAGGGGT  CAGTCTTTGT  CCAGGGGGC
721 GCCTTCGCCA  CCGGATATCC  TCCAGATCTC  TACGCATTT  ACCGCTACAC  CTGGAATTC
781 ACCCCCTCT  ACAAGACTCT  AGTTTGGCAG  TTCGAAATGC  GGTTCCCAGG  TTGAGCCCGG
841 GCGTTCACA  TCTCGCTTAA  CAAACCGCT  GCGCACGCTT  TAGCCGAGT  AATTCGATF
901 AACGCTCGCA  CCCTCCGAT  TACCAGGCT  GCTGGCACGG  AGTAGCCGG  TGCTTCTCT
961 GCGAGTACCG  TCACAGATGT  AAGGTATTA  CTTACACCT  TTCCTCTCG  CTGAAAGTGC
1021 TTTCAACCC  GAAGGCCCTC  TTCACACAG  CCGCATGGCT  GCATCAGGGT  TTCGCCATF
1081 GTGCAATAT  CCCCCTGCT  GCCTCCCGTA  GGAGTCTGGG  CCGTGTCTCA  GTCCAGTGT
1141 GCGTATCAT  CCTCTCAGAC  CAGCTAGGGA  TCCTCCGCTA  GGTGAGCCTT  TACCTCACCT
1201 ACTAGCTAAT  CCCACCTGGG  CTTATCCATC  AGCGAAGGC  CGAAGGTCC  CTGCTTTCC
1261 CCGGTAGGCC  GTATGCGGTA  TTAGCAGTCG  TTTCCAAGT  TTTATCCCCA  CAAATGGGCA
1321 AATTCCCAAG  CATTACTCAC  CCGTCCCGCG  CTCGTCTCT  TCAAAAGCAA  GC
  
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Fasta

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>MUL_3
AAGGTTAAGCTATCTACTTCTGGTGCAGCCCACTCCCATGGTGTGACGGGCGGTGTGTACAAGGCCCGGGAACGTATTAC
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CGAATTAACACCATGCTCCACCGCTTGTGGGGGCCCGTCAATTCATTGAGTTTAACTTTCGCGCCGTACTCCCAAGG
CGGTCTACTTAATGCGTTAGCTTGAGAGCCAGTGTTCAGACACCAAACTCCGAGTAGACATCGTTACGGCGTGGACTA
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16S rRNA gene sequence alignment with basic local alignment search tool (BLAST). Analysis of BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search tool) online via: <http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi> on the results of DNA sequencing was carried out to search for species names, percentages of DNA homology with existing databases on GenBank. The results of identification of probiotic bacterial isolates from the BLAST results were taken based on the highest homology that has the closest relationship with the bacteria in GenBank. Based on the nucleotides registered with the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), the species, strains and accession numbers of bacterial isolates identified in this study are presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Results of Tracing 16S rRNA Sequencing of Bacterial Isolates with the BLAST System

Isolate	Species	Strain	Accession Number	Query Coverage	Homology
MUL_1	<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp.	MUL37	MT229070	100%	100%
MUL_2	<i>Shewanella</i> sp.	MUL31	MT229068	100%	100%
MUL_3	<i>Nitratireductor</i> sp.	MUL35	MT229069	100%	100%

The alignment results of 16S rRNA gene sequences with BLAST (Table 3) showed that the bacterial isolate MUL_1 was identified as *Acinetobacter* sp. strain MUL37 with

100% homology and 100% query coverage; MUL_2 isolate was identified as *Shewanella* sp. strain MUL31 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage; and bacterial isolate MUL_3 identified as *Nitratireductor* sp. strain MUL35 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage. The types of bacteria found are thought to have come from the waters of the Batam Sea which are used as a medium for maintaining pomfret, because the starter bacteria added to the media do not contain these types of bacteria.

According to Aditya et al., (2017) the sequence equation between 93-97% can represent the identity of bacteria at the genus level but different at the species level. Furthermore, Hagstrom et al (2000) and Seprianto et al (2017) state that bacteria that have a 16S rRNA sequence equation greater than 97% are the same species, while the equation between 93-97% can represent identity at the genus level but differ at the level species. According to Dancourt et al (2000), if the similarity of the sequences is less than 97%, it is likely a new species because there is no data in the database or the size of the sequencing results compared to the database is too short.

Phylogenetic tree analysis. The analysis of phylogenetic tree formation was carried out by looking at the similarities that exist in the genetic isolates of MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 bacteria with a database of the results of alignment of nucleotide sequences in GenBank using the Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64 application. Phylogenetic analysis using the UPGMA distance-based method (Unweight Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Average) or the unweight pair group method with arithmetic mean is the simplest method of all the clustering methods used to build phylogenetic trees. Phylogenetic analysis used 17 sequences with 3 sample sequences and 14 comparison sequences, the alignment process used 1000 bootstraps and Kimura 2 model parameters. Branches that connect the dots (nodes) are taxonomic units, such as species or genes, tree roots are the ancestors (ancestors) for all organisms, the dendrogram is presented in Figure 5.

Figure 5 shows the bacteria MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 are in 1 cluster and separated from the type of control bacteria, this means that between MUL_1 and MUL_2 have close relationships, even tend to be the same species or belong to the same subspecies, while MUL_3 bacteria have a genus. the same one. Judging from the point of branching, the three isolates were closely related to *Nitratireductor* and *Shewanella*.

The results of the calculation of genetic distance using Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64, it was found that the distances between species varied, ranging from 0.00 to 1.6659. The smallest genetic distance was found between bacteria MUL_1 and MUL_2 of 0.2005, while between MUL_1 and MUL_3 was 0.2081. The genetic distance between bacteria MUL_1 and *Acinetobacter venetianus* (GenBank: NR.042049.1) was 1.2531; between MUL_2 and *Shewanella algae* (GenBank: NR117771.1) of 1.2955; and between MUL_3 and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus* (GenBank: 117929.1) of 1.2468. According to Tallei et al. (2016) the smaller the value of the genetic distance between two organisms, the closer the kinship of the two is.

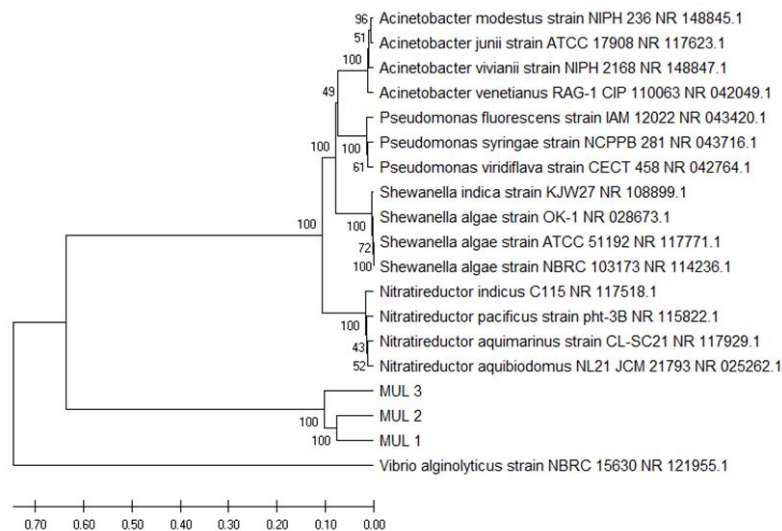


Figure 5. Pylogenetic Tree Dendrogram of Isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 with 14 Comparative Species.

Bauvet and Grimont (1986) stated that *Acinetobacter* (Isolate MUL_1) belongs to the kingdom Acinetobacter, phylum Proteobacteria, class Gammaproteobacteria, order Pseudomonadales, amylo Moraxellaceae, genus *Acinetobacter*. In general, these bacteria are rod-shaped, gram-negative, non-motile, catalase positive and oxidase negative, live aerobically, and are opportunistic bacteria. Beleneva and Maslennikova (2004) and Soslau et al (2011) reported that the *Acinetobacter* bacteria were found to be associated with several invertebrates such as mollusks, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, starfish and crustaceans.

Shewanella bacteria (Isolate MUL_2) belong to the Bacteria kingdom, the Proteobacteria phylum, the Gamma Proteobacteria class, the Alteromonadales order, the Shewanellaceae family and the *Shewanella* genus. The special characteristics of *Shewanellae* are their ability to capture electrons in oxygen deficient conditions and their ability to survive in various habitats (Gralnick and Newman, 2007). The genus *Shewanella* is a gram-negative rod-shaped proteobacteria 2-3 μm long and 0.4-0.7 μm in diameter. These bacteria are facultative anaerobic bacteria that are commonly found in marine sediments and can swim with the help of a single polar flagellum (Venkateswaran et al., 1999).

The genus *Shewanella* is a genus of metal reducing bacteria. These bacteria are found in marine environments, freshwater, lakes, land or terrestrial, rivers, Arctic and Antarctic oceans, corroded or corroded oil pipes and aquifer environments contaminated with uranium. These bacteria are widely used for bioremediation or environmental cleaning of pollutants such as chlorinated compounds, radionuclides and other environmental pollutants (Venkateswaran et al., 1999).

According to Labbe et al. (2004) *Nitratireductor* (Isolate MUL_3) belongs to the kingdom Bacteria, phylum Proteobacteria, class Alpha Proteobacteria, order Rhizobiales, family Phyllobacteriaceae and genus *Nitratireductor*. Characteristics The nitratireductor isolated from sea water in the Indian Ocean and marine sediments in the Pacific Ocean, has the ability to reduce ammonia, rod-shaped, with white bacterial colonies. The optimum temperature for growth is 25-35 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and pH 5-12.

Water quality. The results of observations on temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), TAN, nitrite, (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) in all treatments during the study are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Average temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), total ammonia nitrogen (TAN), nitrite (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) in all treatments during the study

Parameters being measured	Jumlah <i>bioball</i> /wadah filter				
	0	35	45	55	65
Temperature (°C)	28,6-29,1	28,4-29,1	28,7-29,1	28,6-29,1	28,6-29,1
pH	7,5-7,7	7,6-7,7	7,6-7,7	7,6-7,8	7,6-7,7
DO (mg/L)	6,2-6,5	6,2-6,6	6,2-6,6	6,3-6,7	6,2-6,6
Salinity (ppt)	15	15	15	15	15
TAN (mg/L)	0,61-1,58	0,28-1,59	0,18-1,56	0,06-1,57	0,12-1,56
Nitrite (mg/L)	0,6240,953	0,209-0,863	0,170-0,875	0,120-0,861	0,129-0,874
Nitrate (mg/L)	0,820-1,12	0,98-1,40	0,96-2,15	0,93-3,07	0,98-1,42

Table 4 shows that temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), ammonia (NH₃) and nitrite (NO₂) are relatively similar in all treatments, except for the nitrate content. The highest nitrate content was found in the 55 *bioball* / filter container treatment. In general, temperature, pH, DO, TAN, Nitrite and Nitrate are in a good range for the growth of pomfret fish.

SNI 7901.4., (2013) and Ashari et al., (2014) state that the optimal temperature for the growth of star pomfret ranges from 28-32 ° C, pH 6.8 - 8.4. According to Ezraneti et al., (2019) pomfret fish can live optimally at a salinity of 14-19 ppt. SNI 7901.4. (2013) require that dissolved oxygen is good for the maintenance of pomfret fish seeds at least 5 mg / L. Royan et al. (2019) reported that the lethal concentration (LC₅₀) of TAN ranged from 1.10 to 22.8 ppm for invertebrates and from 0.56 to 2.37 ppm for fish within 24 - 96 hours after exposure. The range of nitrite levels for the maintenance of pomfret fish seeds is a maximum of 1 mg / L (SNI 7901.4., 2013).

The highest nitrate concentration was found in the treatment of 55 *bioballs* / filter containers. The high nitrate content in the 55 *bioball* / filter container treatment, due to the number of *bioballs* as many as 55 pieces / filter container with a volume of 9.8 L is the optimal amount for the live media for bacteria, especially bacteria that play a role in the nitrification process, so that the highest bacterial growth was found in the treatment this. The higher the number of bacteria causes the faster the nitrification process to take place, resulting in an increase in the maximum concentration of nitrate in the media. According to Lampert and Sommer (2007) bacteria have proteolytic enzymes that can break down organic nitrogen into nitrates, which are nutrients needed by phytoplankton and other aquatic microflora. Furthermore, Nelvia et al., (2015) obtained the best number of *bioballs* which were almost the same for the growth of goldfish, namely 50 *bioballs* / 9.8 L filter containers. Nitrate levels obtained during the study were still in accordance with the quality standards referred to in Government Regulation No. 82 of 2001, namely <20 mg / L. Effendi (2014) states that the nitrate content of 0 - 1 mg / L is included in the oligotrophic (low) category, and 1 - 5 mg / L is in the mesotrophic (moderate) category. According to Ulqodry et al. (2010), normal nitrate content in marine waters generally ranges from 0.01 - 50 mg / L. Furthermore Hartoko (2010) reports that algae, especially phytoplankton, can grow optimally at a nitrate content of 0.009 - 3.5 mg / L.

Relationship between number of *bioballs* and water quality. The results of the regression analysis between the number of *bioballs* with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 5.

Table 5. Linear regression analysis between the number of *bioballs* with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

No.	Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation (r)	R determinant (R ²)
1.	Temperature	Y = 289,72 - 0,038 X	-0,767	0,589

2.	pH	$Y = 759,51 + 0,067 X$	0,444	0,197
3.	Dissolved oxygen (DO)	$Y = 634,56 + 0,196 X$	0,650	0,423
4.	TAN	$Y = 58,29 - 0,83 X$	-0,965	0,931
5.	Nitrite (NO ₂)	$Y = 587,55 - 8,345 X$	-0,949	0,900
6.	Nitrate (NO ₃)	$Y = 94,73 + 1,75 X$	0,664	0,441

Note: the value of $r = 0$ indicates that there is no correlation between the two variables (number of bioballs and water quality), $r > 0 - 0.25$ the correlation is very weak, $r > 0.25 - 0.5$ is sufficient correlation, $r > 0.5 - 0.75$ strong correlation, $r > 0.75 - 0.99$ very strong correlation and $r = 1$ perfect correlation; $R^2 \geq 0.5$ (50%) = ability to explain the independent variable (number of bioballs) to the dependent variable (water quality) is strong (Sarwono, 2012).

Table 5 shows that the number of bioballs has the greatest effect on the reduction in TAN ($R^2 = 0.931$ or 93.1%) and has a very strong negative linear correlation ($r = 0.965$), this means that the more the number of bioballs in the filter container, the ammonia concentration will decrease. This is because in the filter media there are several types of nitrifying bacteria derived from the introduced starter bacteria, namely *Nitrosomonas* sp. and *Nitrobacter* sp., in addition to the bacteria found in the bioball, namely *Acinetobacter* sp., *Shewanella* algae and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus*. The presence of these bacteria can help accelerate the oxidation process of TAN which is toxic to fish into non-toxic nitrate through the nitrification process, so that the reduction in TAN in the pomfret cultivation medium becomes faster.

Relationship between bacterial density and water quality. The results of regression analysis between bacterial density and temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Linear regression analysis between bacterial density with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

No.	Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation (r)	R determinant (R ²)
1.	Temperature	$Y = 289.50 - 0,003 X$	-0,226	0,475
2.	pH	$Y = 756.37 + 0,015 X$	0,695	0,484
3.	Dissolved oxygen (DO)	$Y = 289.50 + 0,036 X$	0,816	0,667
4.	TAN	$Y = 59.578 - 0,090 X$	-0,725	0,526
5.	Nitrite (NO ₂)	$Y = 557,73 - 0,796 X$	-0,625	0,391
6.	Nitrate (NO ₃)	$Y = 30,304 + 0,352 X$	0,923	0,852

Table 6 shows that bacterial density has the greatest influence on the increase in nitrate concentration in the pomfret rearing medium ($R^2 = 0.852$ or 85.2%). This is due to the presence of *Nitrosomonas* bacteria, *Nitrobacter* which are included as a starter in the filter container, and heterotrophic bacteria in the bioball which accelerate the ammonia to turn into nitrate, so that the nitrate concentration increases with increasing bacterial density.

Conclusions. The number of bioballs had an effect ($P < 0.05$) on bacterial density. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioballs / filter containers with a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of $667.67 \pm 1.53 \times 10^5$ CFU / mL. The number of bioballs affected the bacterial density by 31.1. The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter*, *Shewanella* and *Nitratireductor*. The highest number of bioballs (93.1%) affected the decrease in TAN, while the largest bacterial density (85.2%) influenced the increase in Nitrates.

Acknowledgements. The authors wish to thank the Institute for Research and Community Service, University of Riau (Riau University Research Center) and the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (Ristekdikti) for funding this research.

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Received: 16 May November. Accepted: . Published online: .

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How to cite this article:

Mulyadi, Pamukas N. A., Tang U. M., Amin B., Sukendi, 202x Density and types of probiotic bacteria in filter media with different number of bioballes in culturing media of silver pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) with recirculation system. *AACL Bioflux* x (x):....

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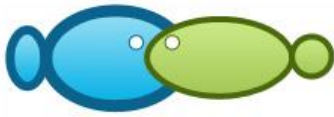
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Density and types of probiotic bacteria in filter media with different number of bioballes in culturing media of silver pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) with recirculation system

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Abstract. Cultivation intensification with a recirculation system tends to have a high stocking density and a large amount of feed, so that feed residue, metabolic waste, and oxygen consumption also increase. To speed up the decomposition of feed residue and metabolic waste, filtering is necessary, namely by means of a bioball. This study aims to analyze the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, to improve water quality and the optimal number of bioballs for bacterial living media. This study used a completely randomized design, 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications. As the level of treatment in this study are; A = without bioball (control), B = 35 bioballs filter container⁻¹, C = 45 bioballs filter container⁻¹, D = 55 bioballs filter container⁻¹ and E = 65 bioballs filter container⁻¹ respectively. The silver pompano fish measuring 10 - 12.55 cm and body weight of 24.3 - 28.9 grams with a density of 1 fish 4 L⁻¹ (20 fish / 80 L) were cultivated for 56 days. During fish rearing, they are fed with Megami GR2 pellets with a composition of 46% protein, 10% fat, 2% crude fiber and 10% moisture content, 3 times a day ad libitum. As a response to the test are: the type and density of bacteria in the bioball, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, total ammonium nitrogen, nitrite and nitrate. The research data were analyzed statistically ANOVA (P<0.05), Newman Keuls's advanced test and multiple regression models using SPSS 17.0. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ with a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of 667.67 ± 1.53 x 10⁵ CFU mL⁻¹. The amount of bioball affected the bacterial density by 31.1%, nitrogen absorption by fish 16.5% and filter media by 85.2%. The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter* sp., *Shewanella* sp. and *Nitratireductor* sp. 15 ‰ salinity culturing media using a filter substrate of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ in the recirculation system gave the best bacterial density and water quality (28.6 - 29.1 0C, pH 7.6 - 7.8, DO 6.3 - 6, 7 mg L⁻¹, TAN 0.06 - 1.57 mg L⁻¹, nitrite 0.120 - 0.861 mg L⁻¹ and nitrate 0.93 - 3.07 mg L⁻¹).

Key Words: bioball, bacterial density, probiotics, water quality.

Introduction. Silver pompano fish is a marine aquaculture species that is relatively new in Indonesia. However, the demand for this fish continues to increase, especially from the international market. These fish include fish species that have high adaptability, are easy to cultivate and have important economic value. The price of silver pompano for consumption reaches around USD 4,25 kg⁻¹ at local market and USD 14.144 kg⁻¹ for export commodities (Mo 2017). Since 2015 silver pompano has become a leading commodity in marine cultivation fisheries. Production of silver pompano in 2015 reached 1900 tons, and each year it is targeted to increase production to reach 31.5% per year (Prahadi 2015).

The production target for the silver pompano commodity can be achieved through intensification of cultivation. Intensive cultivation tends to be with a high stocking density, resulting in narrow space for fish, increased competition for oxygen and feed, so that the potential for fish to be stressed is greater, as a result, fish growth will be hampered. High density also accelerates the decline in water quality due to the accumulation of metabolic waste and feed residue, so that it has a major effect on growth.

Naturally nitrogen from fish culture waste produces ammonia (NH₃) from feed residue and fish metabolism, this can result in a buildup of organic matter which causes a

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decrease in water quality (Putra and Pamukas 2011; Prayogo et al 2012). One of the technologies in fisheries to maintain water quality in order to remain suitable for aquatic organisms and to support the optimization of water utilization is the cultivation of recirculation systems. The recirculation system is able to reduce the level of ammonia concentration, to within the range of 31-43% (Djokosetiyanto et al 2006; Putra and Pamukas 2011).

According to Lekang (2008) and Fadhil et al (2010) the use of a recirculation system has advantages including more efficient water use, flexibility in cultivation locations, more hygiene, relatively small space or land requirements, ease of controlling and maintaining cultivated organisms, ease of maintaining water quality, environmentally friendly, safe from pollution. that occurs outside the aquatic environment and can be carried out all the time.

Recirculating Aquaculture System technology can also be used to control dissolved solids adapted to the aquaculture system and filter substrate (Fadhil et al 2010). The filter substrate serves to filter dissolved solids. The use of the right type and filter material will determine the success of fish rearing in the recirculation system because it will determine the growth of non-pathogenic bacteria on the material. Currently, biological filter substrates are widely used because they are more environmentally friendly.

There are many biological filter materials that can be used, one of which is the bioball. Bioball is spherical, with a diameter of 4 cm, a specific area of $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 / \text{m}^3$ with a cavity priority of 0.92, made of PVC material (Said 2002). Bioball functions as a physiological filter which is a growing medium for bacteria that can remove ammonia contained in water (Alfia et al 2013). The bacteria that grow on the bioball are nitrifying bacteria (*Nitrosomonas* sp and *Nitrobacter* sp). *Nitrosomonas* has a role in oxidizing ammonia to nitrite, while *Nitrobacter* has a role in oxidizing nitrite to nitrate, this nitrate will become plankton for fish natural food (O-fish 2012).

Several studies related to improving water quality in aquaculture with recirculation and hydroponic systems have been carried out, such as; Mulyadi and Pamukas (2013) use a recirculation system in nursery and rearing of fish (*Mystus nemurus*); Alfia et al. (2013) used a recirculation system with a bioball filter in Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) culture; Adamu et al (2014) studied the effect of different feed formulations on the recirculation system prototype container on the histology of the liver and kidneys of male hybrid catfish (*Heterobranchus bidorsalis*) with female *Clarias gariepinus*; Nelvia et al (2015) studied the addition of a bioball to the maintenance media filter on the survival and growth of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) fry. Based on the description above, a series of studies on the number and types of bacteria and the improvement of water quality in the cultivation of recirculation systems with different numbers of bioballs are needed. This research is aimed at analyzing the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, improving water quality (temperature, pH, DO, TAN), nitrite and nitrate) and analyzed the optimal amount of bioball for the live medium of bacteria.

Material and Method

Location and time of research. This research was conducted in January - July 2019, which was carried out in several laboratories, namely: rearing fish was carried out at the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL) Batam, water quality analysis at the Laboratory of Fish and Environmental Health Testing at the Batam Marine Aquaculture Fisheries Agency (BPBL), identifying types of bacteria and calculating the number of bacterial densities in the Fish and Environmental Health Examiners of the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL), PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test at PT. Genetics Science Indonesia, West Jakarta.

Materials and tools. The main ingredients that will be used in this research are as follows: the test animals used in this study are the seeds of silver pompano (*T. blochii*, Lacepede) originating from the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL) Batam, with a size of 10-11 cm. 300 heads. As the test feed, the commercial pellet pellet "GR-2" contains 46% protein, 10% fat, 13% ash content, 2% crude fiber, and 10% moisture

content. The test feed was obtained from the Batam Marine Cultivation Center (BPBL). A round bucket with a diameter of 60 cm, a height of 45 cm, a volume of 150 L as a research vessel. Bioball with a diameter of 4 cm, specific area $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$ with a cavity priority of 0.92, is made of PVC as a filter substrate (Figure 1a). As a filter container is a PVC filter gutter measuring 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm.

Experimental design. The research method used in this study was an experimental method completely randomized design, 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications (Steel and Torrie, 1993). As a factor in the study was the difference in the number of bioballs. The treatment level determination in this study is based on the best research results by Nelvia et al., (2015) that the use of 50 bioballs gutters⁻¹ can improve water quality and provide 100% survival rates, growth weight of 2.605 grams, growth length of 1.48 mm of goldfish fry (*Carassius auratus*) in closed recirculation system. So that the treatment in this study are; A = without bioball (control), B = 35 bioballs filter container⁻¹, C = 45 bioballs filter container⁻¹, D = 55 bioballs filter container⁻¹ and E = 65 bioballs filter container⁻¹.

Research procedure. The silver pompano fish measuring 10 - 12.55 cm in length and body weight of 24.3 - 28.9 grams were obtained from the Batam Marine Cultivation Center (BPBL), adapted for 7 days before being used as test fish. Fish rearing containers use a closed recirculation system. Into each rearing container is filled with sea water with a salinity of 15 ‰. The rearing container is connected to a 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm PVC gutter as a filter container, which is placed at the top of the fish-raising containers. Then the water from the filter gutter will flow back through the PVC pipe with a diameter of 2.5 cm to the rearing tub of silver pompano fish. Water from the fish rearing container will be flowed into the filter media (gutter) with the number of bioballs according to the treatment (Figure 1b) for each gutter according to the best findings of Nelvia et al., (2015) and using a water pump that has a power of 18 watts. After the water passes through the filter media (gutter), it will be returned to the fish-raising tub through the drain pipe in the filter container. In the rearing medium, KP-SUPER N (*Nitrosomonas* sp. and *Nitrobacter* sp.) Trademark starter bacteria were added at a dose of 2.5 ml 200 L⁻¹week⁻¹ (Hartini et al., 2013), to accelerate bacterial growth in the bioball.



Figure 1. a. Bioball used as a filter substrate, b. The design of the Silver pompano aquaculture recirculation system.

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The test fish that have been adapted to the culturing media are then randomly placed into 15 rearing containers. The fish were given commercial feed with 46% protein content, 10% fat, 13% ash content, 2% crude fiber, and 10% moisture content by ad satiation at 07:00, 12.00 and 17.00 WIB.

Measured response. The responses measured in this study were: density and type of bacteria in the filter container were observed at the beginning, middle and end of the study (SNI.01-2332.3-2006 and SNI.01-2332.3-2006); temperature, pH and salinity were observed every day, dissolved oxygen (DO), Total Ammonia Nitrogen (TAN), nitrite (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) were observed every week. Water quality measurement procedures refer to SNI in the Public Works Service (1990).

Data analysis. Bacterial density data were analyzed according to the RAL model (Steel and Torrie, 1993). To determine the effect of salinity on each measured variable, a diversity analysis was performed using SPSS 17.0 software. If $P < 0.05$, the Newman-Keuls further test was performed to see the differences between treatments. Water quality data were analyzed descriptively using Microsoft Excel application and displayed in tables and graphs. To see the relationship between the number of bioballs and the density of bacteria with water quality, regression analysis was carried out.

Results and Discussion

Density of bacteria in the filter container. The results of bacterial density observations carried out on Plate Count Agar (PCA) media using the Total Plate Count method can be seen in Figure 2.

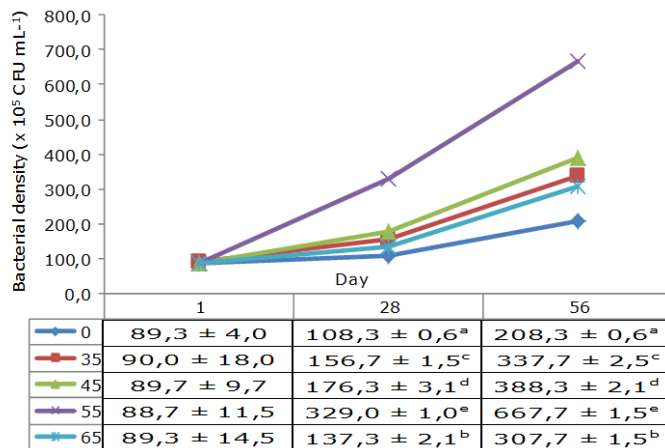


Figure 2. Bacterial density in all treatments during the study

Figure 2 shows that the bacterial density from day 1 to day 28 in treatment 0, 35, 45 and 65 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ are relatively similar and insignificant increase, in contrast to treatment 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ a significant increase of bacteria than other treatments. This is due to the fact that the bacteria and silver pompano fish are still adapting to the media in which they live, besides that the nutrients that come from the remaining feed and fish feces are still not sufficient to support the maximum bacterial growth. After the 28th day the number of bacteria in all treatments continued to increase reaching a maximum peak on the 56th day. This is due to the increase in organic matter from fecal matter and fish feed along with the growth of the silver pompano, which is a source of bacterial nutrition, thereby increasing the rate of bacterial development. In accordance with the opinion of Sunarto (2003), dissolved organic matter is needed by living bacteria, then Sidharta (2000) explains that organic material contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia, and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth. Giving KP SUPER N which is given routinely in a cultivation container causes the bacteria to continue to grow because of the availability of organic materials that can be used optimally. The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹.

The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ at the end of the study, namely $667.7 \times 10^5 \text{ CFU mL}^{-1}$, this is because the number of bioballs is 55 in a filter container measuring 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm for culture media with volume 80 L, is the optimal amount as a living medium for bacteria.

This is because the number of bioballs with the size of the filter container is in a balance, thus providing an opportunity for oxygen to enter the bioball cavity and bacteria to get sufficient oxygen. In accordance with the opinion of Nut (2009) and Nelvia et al (2015) which states that the location of the bioball which is not too dense provides an opportunity for oxygen to enter the bioball cavity so that the bacteria attached to the bioball get sufficient oxygen, if the oxygen obtained by the bacteria is sufficient then the bacteria will grow a lot in the bioball cavity and work more optimally.

The lowest bacterial density was found in treatment A (without bioball), which was 208.3×10^5 CFU mL⁻¹, this was due to the filter without using bioball and without the addition of starter bacteria (KP SUPER N) causing limited live media for bacteria and no additional nutrient availability for the growth and development of bacteria. The low density of bacteria when using the highest number of bioballs (65 bioballs filter container⁻¹) is due to the large number of bioballs for the filter container size of 50 cm x 14 cm x 14 cm, so that the location of the bioballs is very tightly positioned and leaves no empty space. According to Nelvia et al (2015) the amount of bioball that is too dense in the gutter can cause bacteria in the bioball cavity to not live if there is a lack of oxygen supply, the performance of the bioball filter decreases so that the process of decomposing organic matter by nitrifying bacteria does not run.

The biofilter system is the removal of ammonia, ammonia will accumulate and reach toxic levels if it is not transferred by a nitrification process where the process is first that ammonia is oxidized to toxic nitrite, then to nitrate, which is relatively non-toxic. The above process involves *Nitrosomonas* and *Nitrobacter* bacteria. Bacteria grow like a film on the surface of the material (biofilter container) or adhere to organic particles. Biofilter consists of a medium with a large surface for the growth of nitrite bacteria. In the recirculation system, the bacteria plays a role in converting toxic substances (ammonia) to non-toxic substances (nitrates). The performance of bacteria in the biofilter system is marked by an increase in the average BOD value in the culture medium (Nurhidayat et al 2012). The more bioballs that are used, the more opportunities there are for bacteria to stick, but too much use can also make bacteria die, due to the lack of oxygen received by bacteria (Nelvia et al 2015).

ANOVA results showed that the number of bioballs had an effect on the density of bacteria on day 28 and 56. The Newman Keuls range study test gave the results of differences in bacterial density between treatments. The results of the regression analysis between the number of bioballs and bacterial density provide the following regression equation:

$$Y = 227.9 + 3,851X$$

Information: Y = bacterial density, X = number of bioballs, r = 0.557 and R² = 0.311

The results of the regression analysis showed that the number of bioballs had a positive correlation with bacterial density (r = 0.557), this means that the number of bacteria in the filter container increased with the increase in the number of bioballs. The increase in the number of bacteria in the filter container was influenced by the number of bioballs by 31.1% and 68.9%, which is thought to be influenced by the content of organic matter. Nelvia et al (2015) stated that the bioball is a breeding ground for various bacteria needed in the breakdown of organic matter. According to Sunarto (2003) dissolved organic matter is needed by bacteria to live. Furthermore, according to Sidharta (2000) organic matter contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia, and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth.

Identification of bacteria in filter containers. Based on the observations, there were 7 pure bacterial isolates. The identification of bacteria against the isolates found in the filter media was carried out by physical, biochemical and sensitivity tests to see which bacteria had the greatest inhibition zone against pathogenic bacteria.

Physics test. The results of observations of color, shape, edge, elevation and gram of the seven isolates found are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Observation Results of Bacterial Characteristics

No	Isolate	Colony				Cell		Treatment
		Color	Shape	Edge	Elevation	Gram Type	Shape	
1	A ₁	Yellow	Circular	Entire	Umbonate	Negative	Stem	P ₂ U ₁
2	A ₂	Beige	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₀ U ₃
3	A ₃	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₂
4	A ₄	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₁
5	A ₅	Beige	Filamentous	Entire	Filiform	Negative	Stem	P ₁ U ₁
6	A ₆	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₂
7	A ₇	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₃

Table 1 shows that all bacterial isolates have gram-negative, entire edges and are rod-shaped. The dominant bacterial colony was white (4 isolates), 2 isolates were beige and 1 isolate was yellow. Colonies were circular round¹ (6 isolates) and filamentous (1 isolate). The elevation of the dominant bacterial colony was raised (5 isolates), 1 umbonate isolate and 1 filiform isolate.

Biochemical test. The results of observations of the Catalase, Oxidase, Motility, O / F, Indol and TSIA tests are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Bacterial Biochemical Test Results

No.	Isolate	Biochemical Characteristics						Treatment
		Catalase	Oxidase	Motility	O/F	Indole	TSIA	
1	A ₁	+	+	+	-	-	A/K	P ₂ U ₁
2	A ₂	+	+	-	F	-	K/K	P ₀ U ₃
3	A ₃	+	-	+	O	-	A/K	P ₃ U ₂
4	A ₄	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₁
5	A ₅	+	+	+	F	+	A/A	P ₁ U ₁
6	A ₆	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₂
7	A ₇	+	+	-	F	-	A/A	P ₃ U ₃

Information: O = oxidative, F = fermentative, A / K = alkaline acid, K / K = alkaline, A / A = acid

Table 2 shows that all bacterial isolates have positive catalase because these bacteria have a catalase enzyme with a reaction in the form of gas bubbles at the time of dropping H₂O₂. According to Stoica (2016) catalase is an enzyme that is owned by the majority of bacteria and is involved in the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen. Hydrogen peroxide and oxygen are used for electron transport in the fermentation of both aerobic and facultative aerobic bacteria.

Oxidase tests A₁, A₂, A₃, A₄, A₅, A₆ and A₇ are positive because of the color change on the oxidase paper which indicates oxidase activity, while A₃ is negative. Five isolates (A₁, A₃, A₄, A₅ and A₆) showed motile results in the motility test due to the spread of bacterial growth on the SIM medium and did not grow on the part of the bacteria puncture site. The O / F test results showed no color change in the paraffin-covered media and the color change on the exposed media. Five bacterial isolates (A₂, A₄, A₅, A₆ and A₇) were observed to be fermentative because the tube without paraffin and the tube filled with paraffin changed color to yellow. According to Fahri (2008) in the O / F test, oxidative organisms occur when a color change is seen in the open media, while fermentative organisms can be indicated by seeing no color change in the closed media.

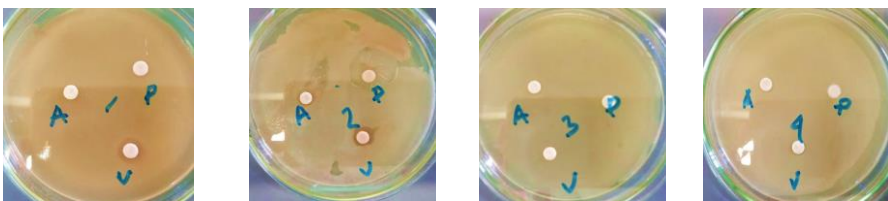
The indole test shows 6 isolates (A₁, A₂, A₃, A₄, A₆ and A₇) give negative results (-) marked with a yellow color on the surface of the media which means that the bacteria are unable to break down the amino acid tryptophan, and no red ring is formed on the surface of the media. after dropping the kovac reagent on SIM media. According to Acharya (2012) the indole test was carried out to determine the ability of bacteria to

break down amino acid tryptophan to form indole compounds. Tryptophan is hydrolyzed by tryptophanase to produce three possible end products, one of which is indole. Indole production is detected by Kovac or Ehrlich's reagent which is composed of 4-p-benzaldehyde dimethylamino, this reagent reacts with indole to produce a red compound. A positive reaction is indicated if there is a red color on the surface of the medium which indicates that the bacteria are able to break down the amino acid tryptophan. In the TSIA test, 4 isolates (*A₄*, *A₅*, *A₆* and *A₇*) showed acidic properties (A / A), 2 isolates (*A₁* and *A₃*) were acid alkaline and 1 isolate (*A₂*) was alkaline.

Sensitivity test. The sensitivity test to pathogenic bacteria was carried out after observing the physical and biochemical tests of the seven isolates. This test aims to find probiotic bacteria candidates for PCR testing. The results of the sensitivity test on 7 isolates are presented in Figure 3. Inhibition zones produced by seven bacterial isolates found in different filter containers. The bacteria in isolate *A₁* were able to inhibit the growth of *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period with a temperature of 37 °C. This is indicated by the formation of a clear area around the blank disk, but it is unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* and *Pseudomonas* bacteria. After an incubation period of 48 hours the inhibition zone remains clear, which indicates that these bacteria can kill (bacteriocidal) *Vibrio* bacteria. Similar to the bacteria in isolate *A₂*, a clear zone was formed around the blank disk against *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 48-hour incubation period, this indicates that *A₂* bacteria are bacteriocidal against *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio*, but cannot inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* bacteria.

Bacteria in *A₃* and *A₄* isolates were unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, it was seen that no inhibition zone was formed on the blank disk. In *A₅* and *A₇* isolates an inhibition zone occurred against *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period, but during the 48-hour incubation period, the clear area became cloudy, indicating that these bacteria were only able to inhibit (bacteriostatic) the three pathogenic bacteria. In *A₆* isolate a clear zone was also formed during the 48-hour incubation period against *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, but no inhibition zone was formed against *Pseudomonas* bacteria. This indicates that the *A₆* bacteria are able to kill (bacteriocidal) *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria.

This is in line with the opinion of Farlex (2005) which states that a material is said to be sensitive to bacteria characterized by the presence of an inhibition zone around the blank disk. Furthermore, according to Dwyana and Murniati (2020) this area of inhibition is formed due to the presence of bioactive compounds contained in microbes that produce exoenzymes that function to break down organic matter and also excrete hydrolytic enzymes, proteases, lipases, amylases, and cellulase so that they are able to hydrolyze polysaccharides as a carbon source and electron donors.



A₁ ; Inhibition
A = 0, P = 0 and
V = 3,74 mm
(bacteriocidal)

A₂ ;Inhibition
A = 0, P = 8,88 mm and
V = 3,49 mm
(bacteriocidal)

A₃ ; Inhibition
A = 0, P = 0 and
V = 0

A₄ ; Inhibition
A = 0, P = 0
and V = 0



A₅ ; Inhibition
A = 4,32 mm,
P = 3,87 mm and
V = 5,24 mm

A₆ ; Inhibition
A = 1,62 mm, P = 0
and V = 3,8 mm
(bacteriocidal)

A₇ ; Inhibition
A = 3,15 mm,
P = 2,58 mm and
V = 2,20 mm

Figure 3. Sensitivity test of bacterial isolates against pathogenic bacteria
Description: A: *Aeromonas*, P: *Pseudomonas*, V: *Vibrio*

Madigan et al (2012) grouped bacteria based on their selective toxicity, antimicrobial compounds had 3 kinds of effects on microbial growth, namely; 1. Bacteriostatic, provides an effect by inhibiting growth but not killing. Bacteriostatic compounds inhibit protein synthesis or bind to ribosomes; 2. Bacteriocidal, gives effect by killing cells but not cell lysis or cell breakdown. 3. Bacteriolytic, causing cells to become lysis or cell breakdown. Furthermore, Dwyana and Murniati (2020) stated that the clear zone formed during the 24-hour incubation period on disc paper during the sensitivity test indicated that the bacteria was bacteriostatic, while 48 hours indicated that the bacteria was classified as bacteriocidal.

According to Jannata (2014) the classification of bacterial growth inhibition responses, based on the inhibition zone consists of 4, namely; weak response (diameter ≤ 5 mm), medium (diameter 5-10 mm), strong (diameter 10-20 mm), and very strong (≥ 20 mm). Based on this classification isolates A₅, A₆ and A₇ were classified as having a weak response to *Aeromonas*, isolate A₂ had a moderate response and isolates A₅ and A₇ had a weak response to *Pseudomonas* bacteria. Furthermore, A₅ isolate had a moderate response to *Vibrio* bacteria, while isolates A₁, A₂, A₆ and A₇ were classified as having a weak response. According to Sugita et al (1996) this is because these bacteria are able to produce antimicrobial compounds which are a form of competition for nutrients and energy. This mechanism is believed to be able to inhibit the growth of pathogens in the filter container. The inhibiting compounds are very diverse, including siderophores, bacteriocins, lysozymes, proteases, hydrogen peroxidase, and organic acids. According to Rengpipat et al (2000) siderophore is a compound with a low molecular weight (< 1500) and is a specific agent to bind ferric ions and can dissolve iron precipitates and change them into the form required for microbial growth. Its ability to form siderophores causes other organisms, especially aquatic animal pathogens, to be unable to obtain these elements and become inhibited.

Based on the results of observations on the inhibition zone diameter and inhibition power, the bacterial isolates selected as candidates for probiotic bacteria were isolates A₁, A₂ and A₆ which were classified as bacteriocidal, then coded MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3. Furthermore, to determine the type of the three bacteria, DNA analysis was carried out using PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction).

Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test

The results of amplification and visualization of DNA fragments of the 16S rRNA gene. The genomic DNA that had been isolated and extracted from isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3, then amplified the 16S rRNA markers using PCR technique. PCR analysis of the 3 bacteria isolates used primary base 27F forward: AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG and revers 1492R: TACGGYTA CCTTGTTACGACTT. The analysis results showed positive with the formation of bands with a total molecular

weight (bp) of 1000 - 1500 bp. The results of amplified DNA visualization using 27F and 1492R electrophoresed with UV light are presented in Figure 4. The amplified fragment has a wavelength of 1227-1372 bp, after seeing Geneious it is known that isolate MUL_1 produces a single band that is clearly visible with a molecular weight of 1331 bp (base pair), MUL_2 1227 bp and MUL_3 1372 bp according to the primary amplification size 27F and 1492R used by comparison using 1 Kb Ladder DNA. The size of this size is in accordance with the expected size of the bacterial 16S rRNA genes, which is between 1300 - 1500 bp (Seprianto et al., 2017).

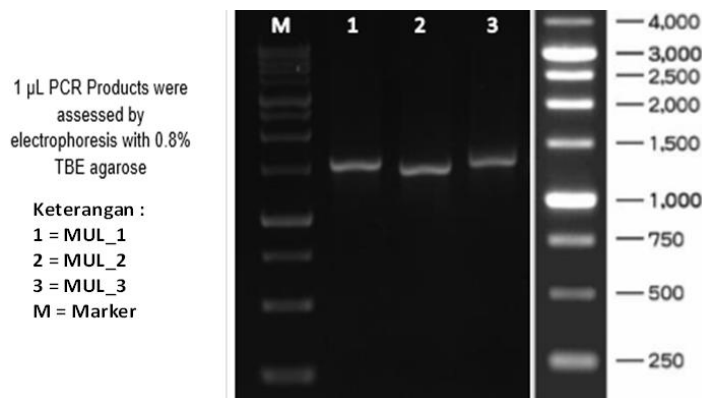


Figure 4. Results of Universal DNA-PCR Amplification on Agarose Gel

The base pairs obtained were combined and trimmed using Bioedit 7.0 software. DNA sequencing analysis gives the following results for the nucleotide and fasta sequences:

A1. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_1

☐ Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1331 bp

```

1      CTGCGGTTA GCGCACTGCC TTCGGGTAAC CCAACTCCCA TGGTGTGACG GCGGGTGTGT
61     ACAAGCCCG GGAGCGTATT CACCGCGGCA TGCTGATCCG CGATTACTAG CGATTCCAAC
121    TCATCGCACG CGATGTGGAG APTGCAATCC GAAGCTGAGT GGTTTTGGGA GATTAGCTCG
181    ACCTCGCGGT CTCGTGCCCC ACTGTCACCA CCATTGTAGC ACGTGTGTAG CCCAGCCCGT
241    AAGGGCCATG AGGACTTGAC GTCATCCCCA CCTTCCTCFC GGCTATACAC CGGCAGTCCC
301    CTAGAGGTGG CCACTGTAAG GCTGGCAACT AAGGGGGAGG GTTGGGCTCG TTGGGGACTC
361    TAACCCAACA CTTACGACA CGAGCTGACG ACAGCCATGC AGCACCTGTC TTGGGTCGAG
421    CTTAACTGAA GGATACCGTC TCCGGTATCC GCGACCCAGA TGTCAAGGGC TGGTAAGGTT
481    CTGGCGGTGG CTTGGAATGA AAGCAATGCG TCACACGCTT GTGGGGGCCC CCGTCAATTC
541    CTTTGTGATT TAACTTGGC ACCGTACTCC CAGGCGGGA AGCTAATGC GTAACTGCG
601    CCACCGACAG GTAACCTGCG CGACGGCTAG CTTCCATCGT TTACGGCGTG GACTACCAGG
661    GTATCTAAAT CTGTGTGCTC CCCAGCTCAG CGTCAGTARC GAGCCAGTGA
721    GCGGCCTTCG CCACTGGTGT TCCTCCGAAT ATCTACGAAT TTCACCTCTA CACTCGGAAT
781    TCCACTCACC TCTCTGAAC TCTAGATCGG CAGTATTAGA GGCAGTCCCG GGGTTGAGCC
841    CCGGGATTTC ACCCCTAATC GAGCGATCCG CTTACGGGGC CTTTACGGCC ACTAATTCGG
901    AACAAACGTA GCCCCCTTCG TATTACCGCG GCTGCTGGCA CGAAGTTAGC CCGGGCTTCT
961    TCTCCGGTFA CCGTCAATAT CTTACCCTGT GAAAGAGCTT TACAACCCCTA GGGCCTTCAT
1021   CACTCACGGC GCATGGCTGG ATCAGGCTTG CGCCCATGCT CCAATATTCG CCACCTGCTGC
1081   CTCCCCTFAG AGTCTGGGCC GTGTCTCAGT CCCAGTGTGG CTGATCATCC TCTCAGACCA
1141   GCTACTGATC GTCCGCTTGG TGAGCCTTTA CCTCACCAAC TAGCTAATCA GACATGGGCT
1201   CATCTACTTC CGATAAATCT TTCTCCGAAA GGACGTATAC GGTATTAGTT CRAAGTTTCC
1261   TGAGTTATTC CGTAGAGCTA GGTAGATTCC CATGCATTAC TCACCCGTCT GCCGCTCCCC
1321   CGAGGGGGCG C
  
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☐ Fasta

> MUL_1

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CTTGCAGTTAGCGCACTGCCTTCGGGTAACCCAACCTCCCATGGTGTGACGGCGGTGTGTACAAGGCCCGGGAACGTATT
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GTTTTGGAGATTAGCTCGACCTGCGGTCTCGCTGCCACTGTCAACCAATTGTAGCAGGTGTGTAGCCAGCCCGTAA
GGCCATGAGGACTTGACGTATCCCCACCTTCTCTCGGCTTATCACCGGCAGTCCCCTTAGAGTGCCCAACTTAAGGCT
GGCAACTAAGGGCGAGGGTTCGCTCTGTTGCGGGACTTAACCCAACATCTCACGACACGAGCTGACGACAGCCATGCAGC
ACCTGTCTTGGGTCCAGCCTAACTGAAGGATACCGTCTCCGGTATCCGCGACCCAGATGTCAAGGGCTGGTAAGGTTCTGC
GCGTTGCTTCAAAATAAACCATGCTCCACCGCTTGTGCGGGCCCCGTCAATTCCTTTGAGTTTAAATCTTGCAGCCGTA
CTCCCAGGGCGGAAGCTTAATGCGTTAACTGCGCCACCGACAGGTAACCTGCCAGCGGTAGCTTCCATCGTTACGGC
  
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GTGGACTACCAGGGTACTAATCCTGTTTGCTCCCAACGCTTTGCACCTCAGCGTCAAGTATCGAGCCAGTGAGCCGCTT
 CGCCACTGGTGTCTCCGAATATACGAATTTACCTCTACACTCGGAATCCACTCACCTCTCGAACTCTAGATTCGGC
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 TCATTATCTTACCAGGTAAGAGCTTTACAACCTAGGGCTTATCACTCACGCGCATGGCTGGATCAGGCTTGCACC
 CATTGTCCAATATCCCACTGCTGCCTCCCGTAGGAGTCTGGCCGTGTCTCAGTCCAGTGTGGCTGATCATCTCAG
 ACCAGTACTGATCGTCCCTGGTGGAGCTTACTCACAACAGTAACTAGACATGGGCTCATCTAACTCCGATAAT
 CTTTCCCGAAGGACGTATACGGTTAGTTCCCTGAGTTATCCGTAGAGCTAGGTAGATTCCCATGCATTACT
 CACCCGTCTGCCGCTCCCGGAGGGGGCGC

A2. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_2

□ Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1227 bp

```

1   GTTAGACTAC CTACTTCTGG TGCAACAAAC TCCCATGGTG TGACGGGGCGG TGTGTACAAG
61  GCCCGGGAAC GTATTACCCG CGGCATTCTG ATCCGCGGAT ACTAGCGATT CCGACTTCAT
121 GGAGTCGAGT TGCAGACTCC AATCCGGACT ACGATCCGGT TTTTGAGATT AGCATCCTAT
181 CCCTAGGTAG CAACCTTTGG TAGCGACAT TGTAGCACGT GTGTAGC CCT GGCCTAAGG
241 GGCATGATCA CTGACCTTCC TCCCGCCCTT CCTCCAGTTT GTCACTGCCA GTATCCTTAA
301 AATCCCATCC CGAAATGGCG GCAAGTAAGG AAAAGGGGTTG CGCTCGTTCG GGGACTTAAC
361 CCAACATCTC ACAGACGGAG CTGACGACAG CATTGCACGA CCTGTATCTA GATTCCCGAA
421 GGCACCAATC CATCTCTTGA AAGTTTCTAG TATGTCAAGG CCAGGTAAGG TTCTTCGGGT
481 TGCATCCGAAT TAAACCAAT GCTCCACCG TTGTGCGGGC CCGCTCAAT TCATTTGAGT
541 TTTAGTCTTG CGACTTACT CCGCAGGCG TCTACTTATC CGGTAGCTG CGCCACTAAA
601 CCCTCAAAGG CCCCACGGC TAGTAGACAT CGTTCACGGC ATGGACTACC AGGGTATCTA
661 ATCCTGTTTG CTCCCATGTC TTTCTTACCT CAGGCTCAGT ATTAGCCAG ATGGCTGCCT
721 TGCCATCGG TATTCTCCCA GATCTCTACG CATTTCACCG CTACACCTGG AATCTACCA
781 TCCTCTCCCA TACTCTAGCC ATCCAGTATC GAATGCAATT CCCAAGTAA GCTCGGGGAT
841 TTGCATTTG ACTTAATAG CCGCTTACGC ACGCTTACG CCGATTAAT CGGATTAAGG
901 CTGCACCCCT CTGTATTACC GCGGCTGCTG GCACAGAGTT AGCCGGTCTT TATCTCGGA
961 GTAACGTTCA CTATCCAGTA GTATTAAATC TAGTAGCCCT CTCCTCGCTT AAAGTGCCTT
1021 ACAACGATAA GGCCTCTTC ACACACGGG CATGGCTGGA TCAAGGTTC CCCATTTGC
1081 CAATATPCCC CACTGCTGCC TCCCGTAGGA GTCTGGGCGG GTCTCAGTC CCAAGTGTGC
1141 GGATCATPCT CTAGACCCG CTACAGATCG TCGCCTTGGT AGGCCTTAC CCCACCAACT
1201 AGTAATPCCG ACTTAGGCTC ATCTATT
  
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□ Fasta

> MUL_2
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 TCATCTCTCAGACCCGCTCAGATCTGCTCCCTTGGTAGGCCCTTAAACCCACCAACTAGTAAATCCGATAGGCTCATCTA
 TT

A3. The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_3

□ Nucleotide sequence

Sequence Assembly 1372 bp

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1   AAGGTTAAGC TATCTACTTC TGGTGACGCC CACTCCCATG GTGTGACGGG CGGTGTGTAC
61  AAGGCCCGGG AACGTATTCA CCGTGGCATT CTGATCCACG ATTACTAGCG ATTCCGACTT
121 CATGGAGTCC AGTTGCACAG TCCATCCCGG ACTACGACCA GCTTATPGGG ATTAGCTCCA
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241 AGGGCCATGA TGACTTGCAG TCGTCCCCAC CTTCCTCCGG TTTATCACCG GCAGTCTCCC
301 TAAAGTTCCC GGCATGACCC GCTGGCAAGT AAGGATAGGG GTTGGCTCCG TCCGGGACTT
361 TAACCAACA TTTCAACAAC CGAGCTGACG ACAGCCATGC AGCACCTGTC TCACAGTTCC
421 CGAAGGCACG GAAGCATCTC TGCTAAATTC TGTGGATGTC AAGAGTAGGT AAGGTTCTTC
481 CGGTTCGATC GAATTAACCC ACATGCTCCA CCGCTGTGSC GGGCCCGGCT CAATTCATTT
541 GAGTTTAAAC CTTGGGCGCG TACTCCCGAG GCGTCTACT TAATGGGTTA GCTTGAGAGC
601 CCAGTGTCCA AGACACAAA CTCCGAGTAG ACATCGTTTA CGGCGTGGAC TACCAGGGTA
661 TCTAATPCTG TTTGCTCCCC ACGCTTTCGT GCCTGAGCGT CAGTCTTTGT CCAGGGGGCC
721 GCGTTCGCGA CCGGATPACC TCGAGACTTC TAGCATTTTC ACCGCTACAC CTGGAAATTC
781 ACCCCCTCTC ACAAGACTCT AGTTTGGCAG TTCGAAATGC GGTTCCCAGG TTGAGCCCGG
841 GGCTTTCACA TCTCCGTTAA CAAACCCGCTT GCGCACGCTT TACGCCAGT AATTCGATTT
901 AAGGCTCGGA CCGCTCGGAT TACCAGCGCT GCTGGCAGG AGTTAGCCGG TGTCTCTTC
961 GCGAGTAACG TCACAGATGT AAGGTATTA CTTACACCCCT TTCTCTCTCG CTGAAAGTGC
1021 TTTACAACCC GAAGGCCCTC TTCACACACG CGGCATGGCT GCATCAGGGT TTCGCCCTATF
1081 GTGCAATATT CCCCAGTCTC GCGTCCGTA GGAGTCTGGG CCGTGTCTCA GTCCAGTGT
1141 GGCTGATCAT CCTCTCAGC CAGCTAGGGA TCGTCCGCTA GGTGAGCCTT TACCTCACCT
1201 ACTAGCTAAT CCCACTTGGT CTTATCCATC AGCCCAAGGC CCGAAGGTCC CCTGCTTTCC
1261 CCGGTAGGCG CTATCGGTA TTAGCAGTGC TTTCCAACTG TTTATCCCCA CAATATGGGA
1321 AATTCCAGG CATTACTCAC CCGTCCCGCG CTCGTCATCT TCAAAGCAA GC
  
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□ Fasta

>MUL_3
AAGGTTAAGCTATCTACTTCTGGTGCAGCCCACTCCCATGGTGTGACGGGCGGTGTGTACAAGGCCCGGGAACGTATTCAC
CGTGGCATTCTGATCCAGGATTACTAGCGATTCCGACTTCATGGAGTCGAGTTGCAGACTCCAATCCGGACTACGACCAGC
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GTAAGGTATTAACCTTACACCTTTCCTCCTCGCTGAAAGTGCTTACAACCCGAAGCCCTTTCACACACGCGGATGCT
GCATCAGGGTTCCCCATTGTGCAATATCCCACTGCTGCCTCCCGTAGGAGTCTGGCCGCTGCTCAGTCCCAGTGTG
GCTGATCATCTCTCAGACCAGCTAGGGATCGTCGCTAGGTGAGCCTTACCTCACCTACTAGCTAATCCCACTGGGCTT
ATCCATCAGCGCAAGGCCGAAGGTCCCCTGCTTCCCGTAGGGCGTATGCGGTATTAGCAGTGTTCACCACTGTTAT
CCCCACAATGGGCAATTCAGGCATTACTACCCGTCGCGGCTCGTATCTCAAAGCAAGC

16S rRNA gene sequence alignment with basic local alignment search tool (BLAST). Analysis of BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search tool) online via: <http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi> on the results of DNA sequencing was carried out to search for species names, percentages of DNA homology sequenced with existing databases on GenBank. The results of identification of probiotic bacterial isolates from the BLAST results were taken based on the highest homology that has the closest relationship with the bacteria in GenBank. Based on the nucleotides registered with the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), the species, strains and accession numbers of bacterial isolates identified in this study are presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Results of Tracing 16S rRNA Sequencing of Bacterial Isolates with the BLAST System

Isolate	Species	Strain	Accession Number	Query Coverage	Homology
MUL_1	<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp.	MUL37	MT229070	100%	100%
MUL_2	<i>Shewanella</i> sp.	MUL31	MT229068	100%	100%
MUL_3	<i>Nitratireductor</i> sp.	MUL35	MT229069	100%	100%

The alignment results of 16S rRNA gene sequences with BLAST (Table 3) showed that the bacterial isolate MUL_1 was identified as *Acinetobacter* sp. strain MUL37 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage; MUL_2 isolate was identified as *Shewanella* sp. strain MUL31 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage; and bacterial isolate MUL_3 identified as *Nitratireductor* sp. strain MUL35 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage. The types of bacteria found are thought to have come from the waters of the Batam Sea which are used as a medium for **culturing silver pompano**, because the starter bacteria added to the media do not contain these types of bacteria.

According to Aditya et al (2017) the sequence equation between 93-97% can represent the identity of bacteria at the genus level but different at the species level. Furthermore, Hagstrom et al (2000) and Seprianto et al (2017) state that bacteria that have a 16S rRNA sequence equation greater than 97% are the same species, while the equation between 93-97% can represent identity at the genus level but differ at the level species. According to Dancourt et al (2000) if the similarity of the sequences is less than 97%, it is likely a new species because there is no data in the database or the size of the sequencing results compared to the database is too short.

Phylogenetic tree analysis. The analysis of phylogenetic tree formation was carried out by looking at the similarities that exist in the genetic isolates of MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 bacteria with a database of the results of alignment of nucleotide sequences in GenBank using the Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64 application. Phylogenetic analysis using the UPGMA distance-based method (Unwight Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Average) or the unweight pair group method with arithmetic mean is the simplest method of all the clustering methods used to build phylogenetic trees. Phylogenetic analysis used 17

sequences with 3 sample sequences and 14 comparison sequences, the alignment process used 1000 bootstraps and Kimura 2 model parameters. Branches that connect the dots (nodes) are taxonomic units, such as species or genes, tree roots are the ancestors (ancestors) for all organisms, the dendrogram is presented in Figure 5.

Figure 5 shows the bacteria MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 are in 1 cluster and separated from the type of control bacteria, this means that between MUL_1 and MUL_2 have close relationships, even tend to be the same species or belong to the same subspecies, while MUL_3 bacteria have a genus. the same one. Judging from the point of branching, the three isolates were closely related to *Nitratireductor* and *Shewanella*.

The results of the calculation of genetic distance using Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64, it was found that the distances between species varied, ranging from 0.00 to 1.6659. The smallest genetic distance was found between bacteria MUL_1 and MUL_2 of 0.2005, while between MUL_1 and MUL_3 was 0.2081. The genetic distance between bacteria MUL_1 and *Acinetobacter venetianus* (GenBank: NR.042049.1) was 1.2531; between MUL_2 and *Shewanella algae* (GenBank: NR117771.1) of 1.2955; and between MUL_3 and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus* (GenBank: 117929.1) of 1.2468. According to Tallei et al (2016) the smaller the value of the genetic distance between two organisms, the closer the kinship of the two is.

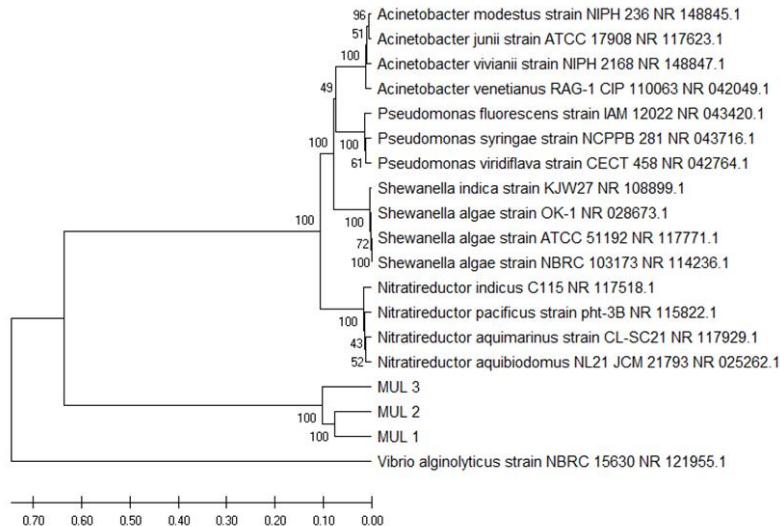


Figure 5. Pylogenetic Tree Dendrogram of Isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 with 16 Comparative Species.

Bauvet and Grimont (1986) stated that *Acinetobacter* (Isolate MUL_1) belongs to the kingdom *Acinetobacter*, phylum *Proteobacteria*, class *Gammaproteobacteria*, order *Pseudomonadales*, family *Moraxellaceae*, genus *Acinetobacter*. In general, these bacteria are rod-shaped, gram-negative, non-motile, catalase positive and oxidase negative, live aerobically, and are opportunistic bacteria. Beleneva and Maslennikova (2004) and Soslau et al (2011) reported that the *Acinetobacter* bacteria were found to be associated with several invertebrates such as mollusks, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, starfish and crustaceans.

Shewanella bacteria (Isolate MUL_2) belong to the Bacteria kingdom, the *Proteobacteria* phylum, the *Gamma Proteobacteria* class, the *Alteromonadales* order, the family *Shewanellaceae* and the genus *Shewanella*. The special characteristics of *Shewanellae* are their ability to capture electrons in oxygen deficient conditions and their

ability to survive in various habitats (Gralnick and Newman, 2007). The genus *Shewanella* is a gram-negative rod-shaped proteobacteria 2-3 µm long and 0.4-0.7 µm in diameter. These bacteria are facultative anaerobic bacteria that are commonly found in marine sediments and can swim with the help of a single polar flagellum (Venkateswaran et al., 1999). The genus *Shewanella* is a genus of metal reducing bacteria. These bacteria are found in marine environments, freshwater, lakes, land or terrestrial, rivers, Arctic and Antarctic oceans, corroded or corroded oil pipes and aquifer environments contaminated with uranium. These bacteria are widely used for bioremediation or environmental cleaning of pollutants such as chlorinated compounds, radionuclides and other environmental pollutants (Venkateswaran et al., 1999).

According to Labbe et al (2004) *Nitratireductor* (Isolate MUL_3) belongs to the kingdom Bacteria, phylum Proteobacteria, class Alpha Proteobacteria, order Rhizobiales, family Phyllobacteriaceae and genus *Nitratireductor*. Characteristics the *Nitratireductor* isolated from sea water in the Indian Ocean and marine sediments in the Pacific Ocean, has the ability to reduce ammonia, rod-shaped, with white bacterial colonies. The optimum temperature for growth is 25-35 °C and pH 5-12.

Water quality. The results of observations on temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), TAN, nitrite, (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) in all treatments during the study are presented in Table 4.

Table 4. Average temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), total ammonia nitrogen (TAN), nitrite (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) in all treatments during the study

Parameters being measured	Number of bioball of each filter container				
	0	35	45	55	65
Temperature (°C)	28.6-29.1	28.4-29.1	28.7-29.1	28.6-29.1	28.6-29.1
pH	7.5-7.7	7.6-7.7	7.6-7.7	7.6-7.8	7.6-7.7
DO (mg L ⁻¹)	6.2-6.5	6.2-6.6	6.2-6.6	6.3-6.7	6.2-6.6
Salinity (g L ⁻¹)	15	15	15	15	15
TAN (mg L ⁻¹)	0.61.-1.58	0.28-1.59	0.18-1.56	0.06-1.57	0.12-1.56
Nitrite (mg L ⁻¹)	0.624-0.953	0.209-0.863	0.170-0.875	0.120-0.861	0.129-0.874
Nitrate (mg L ⁻¹)	0.820-1.12	0.98-1.40	0.96-2.15	0.93-3.07	0.98-1.42

Table 4 shows that temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), ammonia (NH₃) and nitrite (NO₂) are relatively similar in all treatments, except for the nitrate content. The highest nitrate content was found in the 55 bioball filter container⁻¹. In general, temperature, pH, DO, TAN, nitrite and nitrate are in a good range for the growth of pomfret fish.

SNI 7901.4 (2013) and Ashari et al (2014) state that the optimal temperature for the growth of *silver pompano* ranges from 28-32 °C, pH 6.8 - 8.4. According to Ezraneti et al (2019) *silver pompano* fish can live optimally at a salinity of 14-19 ppt. SNI 7901.4 (2013) require that dissolved oxygen is good for the rearing of *silver pompano* fish seeds at least 5 mg L⁻¹. Royan et al (2019) reported that the lethal concentration (LC50) of TAN ranged from 1.10 to 22.8 mg L⁻¹ for invertebrates and from 0.56 to 2.37 mg L⁻¹ for fish within 24 - 96 hours after exposure. The range of nitrite levels for the maintenance of pomfret fish seeds is a maximum of 1 mg L⁻¹ (SNI 7901.4., 2013).

The highest nitrate concentration was found in the treatment of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹. The high nitrate content in the 55 bioball filter container⁻¹, due to the number of bioballs as many as 55 pieces filter container⁻¹ with a volume of 9.8 L is the optimal amount for the live media for bacteria, especially bacteria that play a role in the nitrification process, so that the highest bacterial growth was found in the treatment. The higher the number of bacteria causes the faster the nitrification process to take place, resulting in an increase in the maximum concentration of nitrate in the media. According to Lampert and Sommer (2007) bacteria have proteolytic enzymes that can break down organic nitrogen into nitrates, which are nutrients needed by phytoplankton and other aquatic microflora. Furthermore, Nelvia et al (2015) obtained the best number of bioballs which were almost the same for the growth of goldfish, namely 50 bioballs 9.8 L⁻¹ filter

containers. Nitrate levels obtained during the study were still in accordance with the quality standards referred to in Government Regulation No. 82 of 2001, namely <20 mg L⁻¹. Effendi (2014) states that the nitrate content of 0 - 1 mg L⁻¹ is included in the oligotrophic (low) category, and 1 - 5 mg L⁻¹ is in the mesotrophic (moderate) category. According to Ulqodry et al (2010) normal nitrate content in marine waters generally ranges from 0.01 - 50 mg L⁻¹. Furthermore Hartoko (2010) reports that algae, especially phytoplankton, can grow optimally at a nitrate content of 0.009 - 3.5 mg L⁻¹.

Relationship between number of bioballs and water quality. The results of the regression analysis between the number of bioballs with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 5.

Table 5. Linear regression analysis between the number of bioballs with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

No.	Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation (r)	R determinant (R ²)
1.	Temperature	Y = 289.72 - 0.038 X	-0.767	0.589
2.	pH	Y = 759.51 + 0.067 X	0.444	0.197
3.	Dissolved oxygen (DO)	Y = 634.56 + 0.196 X	0.650	0.423
4.	TAN	Y = 58.29 - 0.83 X	-0.965	0.931
5.	Nitrite (NO ₂)	Y = 587.55 - 8.345 X	-0.949	0.900
6.	Nitrate (NO ₃)	Y = 94.73 + 1.75 X	0.664	0.441

Note: the value of r = 0 indicates that there is no correlation between the two variables (number of bioballs and water quality), r > 0 - 0.25 the correlation is very weak, r > 0.25 - 0.5 is sufficient correlation, r > 0.5 - 0.75 strong correlation, r > 0.75 - 0.99 very strong correlation and r = 1 perfect correlation; R² ≥ 0.5 (50%) = ability to explain the independent variable (number of bioballs) to the dependent variable (water quality) is strong (Sarwono, 2012).

Table 5 shows that the number of bioballs has the greatest effect on the reduction in TAN (R² = 0.931 or 93.1%) and has a very strong negative linear correlation (r = 0.965), this means that the more the number of bioballs in the filter container, the ammonia concentration will decrease. This is because in the filter media there are several types of nitrifying bacteria derived from the introduced starter bacteria, namely *Nitrosomonas* sp and *Nitrobacter* sp, in addition to the bacteria found in the bioball, namely *Acinetobacter* sp, *Shewanella algae* and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus*. The presence of these bacteria can help accelerate the oxidation process of TAN which is toxic to fish into non-toxic nitrate through the nitrification process, so that the reduction in TAN in the pomfret cultivation medium becomes faster.

Relationship between bacterial density and water quality. The results of regression analysis between bacterial density and temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 6.

Table 6. Linear regression analysis between bacterial density with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

No.	Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation (r)	R determinant (R ²)
1.	Temperature	Y = 289.50 - 0.003 X	-0.226	0.475
2.	pH	Y = 756.37 + 0.015 X	0.695	0.484
3.	Dissolved oxygen (DO)	Y = 289.50 + 0.036 X	0.816	0.667
4.	TAN	Y = 59.578 - 0.090 X	-0.725	0.526
5.	Nitrite (NO ₂)	Y = 557.73 - 0.796 X	-0.625	0.391
6.	Nitrate (NO ₃)	Y = 30.304 + 0.352 X	0.923	0.852

Table 6 shows that bacterial density has the greatest influence on the increase in nitrate concentration in the pomfret rearing medium (R² = 0.852 or 85.2%). This is due to the presence of *Nitrosomonas* bacteria, *Nitrobacter* which are included as a starter in the filter container, and heterotrophic bacteria in the bioball which accelerate the ammonia to turn into nitrate, so that the nitrate concentration increases with increasing bacterial density.

Conclusions. The number of bioballs had an effect ($P < 0.05$) on bacterial density. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioballs filter containers⁻¹ with a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of $667.67 \pm 1.53 \times 10^5$ CFU mL⁻¹. The number of bioballs affected the bacterial density by 31.1. The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter*, *Shewanella* and *Nitratireductor*. The highest number of bioballs (93.1%) affected the decrease in TAN, while the largest bacterial density (85.2%) influenced the increase in nitrates.

Acknowledgements. The authors wish to thank the Institute for Research and Community Service, University of Riau (Riau University Research Center) and the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (Ristekdikti) for funding this research.

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Received: 16 May November. Accepted: . Published online: .

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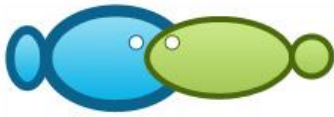
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How to cite this article:

Mulyadi, Pamukas N. A., Tang U. M., Amin B., Sukendi, 202x Density and types of probiotic bacteria in filter media with different number of bio-balls in culturing media of silver pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) with recirculation system. AACL Bioflux x (x):....



Density and types of probiotic bacterial filter media with different number of bioballs in snubnose pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) culture with recirculation system

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Abstract. Cultivation intensification with a recirculation system tends to have a high stocking density and a large amount of feed, so that feed residue, metabolic waste, and oxygen consumption also increase. To speed up the decomposition of feed residue and metabolic waste, filtering is necessary, namely by means of a bioball. This study aimed to analyze the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, to improve water quality and the optimal number of bioballs for bacterial living media. The study used a completely randomized design, with 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications. The treatment levels are: A=without bioballs (control), B=35 bioball filters per container, C=45 bioball filters per container, D=55 bioball filters per container and E=65 bioball filters per container. Snubnose pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) fish specimens measuring 10-12.55 cm and a body weight of 24.3-28.9 g, were cultivated for 56 days, at a stocking density of 1 fish for a water volume of 4 L (a total of 20 fish in a volume of 80 L). During the rearing, fish were fed with Megami GR2 pellets with a composition of 46% protein, 10% fat, 2% crude fiber and 10% moisture content, 3 times a day ad libitum. The type and density of bacteria in the bioball was observed, together with the water quality parameters, such as: temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, total ammonium nitrogen, nitrite and nitrate. The research data were analyzed statistically using ANOVA ($P < 0.05$), Newman Keuls's advanced test and multiple regression models, with the SPSS 17.0 software. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioball filters per containers, with a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of $667.67 \pm 1.53 \times 10^5$ CFU mL⁻¹. The number of bioballs affected the bacterial density by 31.1%, the nitrogen absorption in fish by 16.5% and the filter media by 85.2%. The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter* sp., *Shewanella* sp. and *Nitratireductor* sp. A salinity of 15‰ in the culturing media with a filter substrate of 55 bioball filters per container in the recirculation system gave the best bacterial density and water quality: 28.6-29.1°C, pH 7.6-7.8, dissolved oxygen (DO) 6.3-6.7 mg L⁻¹, total ammonia nitrogen (TAN) 0.06-1.57 mg L⁻¹, nitrite 0.120-0.861 mg L⁻¹ and nitrate 0.93-3.07 mg L⁻¹.

Key Words: bioball, bacterial density, probiotics, water quality.

Introduction. Snubnose pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) fish is a marine aquaculture species that is relatively new in Indonesia. However, the demand for this kind of fish continues to increase, especially from the international market. *T. blochii* is a highly adaptable fish species, easy to cultivate and with a considerable economic value. Its consumption price reaches USD 4.25 kg⁻¹ on the local markets and USD 14.144 kg⁻¹ as export commodity (Mo 2017). Since 2015, *T. blochii* has become a leading commodity in marine cultivation fisheries, with a production of 1900 tons in 2015 and the target to increase production with 31.5% year⁻¹ (Prahadi 2015).

The production target for the *T. blochii* commodity can be achieved through the cultivation intensification, but the high stocking density results in a higher potential for stressing, due to a narrower space and to an increased competition for oxygen and feed, so that the fish growth will be hampered. High density also accelerates the decline in water quality due to the accumulation of metabolic waste and feed residue, shaving a major effect on growth.

Nitrogen from fish culture waste produces ammonia (NH₃), due to feed residue and fish metabolism, which can result in a buildup of organic matter causing a decrease

in water quality (Putra & Pamukas 2011; Prayogo et al 2012). Recirculation systems are technologies used to maintain water quality in fisheries, in order to remain suitable for aquatic organisms and to support the optimization of water utilization. The recirculation system is able to reduce the level of ammonia concentration, restraining it within the range of 31-43% (Djokosetiyanto et al 2006; Putra & Pamukas 2011).

According to Lekang (2008) and Fadhil et al (2010), the use of a recirculation system has several advantages including: more efficient water use, flexibility in cultivation locations, more hygiene, relatively small space or land requirements, ease of controlling and maintaining cultivated organisms, ease of maintaining water quality, environmentally friendly, pollution prevention and it can be functional permanently, without disturbing the aquatic environment.

Recirculating aquaculture system technology can also be adapted to the aquaculture system and to the filter substrate in order to control the dissolved solids (Fadhil et al 2010). The use of the right type of filter material will determine the success of fish rearing in the recirculation system because it will determine the growth of non-pathogenic bacteria on the material. Currently, biological filter substrates are widely used, being more environmentally friendly.

There are many biological filters that can be used, one of which is the bioball. Bioball is a sphere with a diameter of 4 cm, a specific area of $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$ with a width of each hole in a bioball of 0.92, made of PVC material (Said 2002). Bioball functions as a physiological filter which is a growing medium for bacteria that can remove ammonia contained in water (Alfia et al 2013). Nelvia et al (2015) reported that the bioball filtered *Nitrosomonas* sp. bacteria, which function to oxidize ammonia to nitrite, and *Nitrobacter* sp., which function to oxidize nitrite to nitrate.

Several studies related to improving the water quality in aquaculture with recirculation and hydroponic systems have been carried out, such as: Mulyadi & Pamukas (2011) used a recirculation system in nursery and rearing of fish (*Mystus nemurus*); Alfia et al (2013) used a recirculation system with a bioball filter in tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) culture; Nelvia et al (2015) studied the addition of a bioball to the maintenance media filter on the survival and growth of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) fry. Based on the description above, a series of studies on the number and types of bacteria cultured with different numbers of bioballs and on the improvement of water quality in the cultivation and recirculation systems are needed. This research was aimed at analyzing the types and numbers of bacteria present in the bioball, to measure the water quality improvement (temperature, pH, DO, TAN, nitrite and nitrate) and to determine the optimal number of bioball.

Material and Method

Location and time of research. This research was conducted between January and July 2019, in several laboratories, as follows: the fish rearing was carried out at the Batam Marine Cultivation Fishery Center (BPBL), the water quality analysis was carried out at the Laboratory of Fish and Environmental Health Testing of the Batam Marine Aquaculture Fisheries Agency, the bacteria types identification and densities calculation were performed at the Fish and Environmental Health Examiners Lab of the BPBL, the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test was performed at PT Genetics Science Indonesia, West Jakarta.

Materials and tools. The main ingredients used in this research were 300 seeds of *Trachinotus blochii* (Lacepede) with a size of 10-11 cm, originating from the BPBL, fed with commercial pellets "GR-2" (46% protein, 10% fat, 13% ash content, 2% crude fiber and 10% moisture content). The test feed was obtained from the BPBL. A round bucket with a diameter of 60 cm, a height of 45 cm and a volume of 150 L was used as a research vessel. Bioballs have a diameter of 4 cm, a specific area $\pm 230 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$ and a width of each hole in a bioball of 0.92 mm, and are made of PVC, as a filter substrate (Figure 1a).

Experimental design. The research method used in this study was an experimental method completely randomized design, with 1 factor, 5 levels of treatment and 3 replications (Steel & Torrie 1993). As a factor in the study was the difference in the number of bioballs. The treatment level determination in this study is based on the study of Nelvia et al (2015) on the goldfish fry (*Carassius auratus*) in closed recirculation system, stating that the use of 50 bioballs gutter⁻¹ can improve the water quality, providing 100% survival rates and a growth performance up to a weight of 2.605 g and to a length of 1.48 mm. Therefore, the treatment in the present study was established as follows: A=0 (control), B=35, C=45, D=55 and E=65 bioball filters per container.

Research procedure. *T. blochii* fish measuring 10-12.55 cm in length and having a body weight of 24.3-28.9 g were obtained from the BPBL and were adapted for 7 days before being used as test specimens. Fish rearing containers were filled with sea water with a salinity of 15‰, using a closed recirculation system. The rearing container was connected to a 50 x 14 x 14 cm PVC gutter, as a filter container placed at the top of the fish-raising containers. Then the water from the filter gutter flowed back through the PVC pipe with a diameter of 2.5 cm to the rearing tub of *T. blochii*. Water from the fish rearing containers flowed into the filter media (gutters), each gutter containing a number of bioballs corresponding to the tested treatment (Figure 1b) and according to Nelvia et al (2015), by using a water pump with a power of 18 watts. After passing through the filter media (gutter), the water returned to the fish-raising tub through the drain pipe in the filter container. In the rearing medium (KP-SUPER N, with *Nitrosomonas* sp. and *Nitrobacter* sp.), trademark starter bacteria were added at a dose of 2.5 mL 200 L⁻¹ week⁻¹ (Hartini et al 2013), to accelerate bacterial growth in the bioball.



Figure 1. (a) Bioball used as a filter substrate, (b) The design of the *Trachinotus blochii* aquaculture recirculation system (original).

The test specimens that have been adapted to the culturing media were then randomly placed into 15 rearing containers. The fish were given commercial feed at satiation, containing: 46% protein content, 10% fat, 13% ash, 2% crude fiber, and 10% moisture, at 07:00, 12:00 and 17:00 WIB.

Measured response. The response variables measured in this study were: density and type of bacteria in the filter container were observed at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of the study (SNI.01-2332.3-2006 and SNI.01-2332.3-2006); the temperature, pH and salinity were observed every day; the dissolved oxygen (DO), Total Ammonia Nitrogen (TAN), nitrite (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) were observed every week. Water quality measurement procedures refer to SNI in the Public Works Service (2013).

Data analysis. Bacterial density data were analyzed according to the RAL model (Steel & Torrie 1993). To determine the effect of salinity on each measured variable, a diversity analysis was performed using the SPSS 17.0 software. If $P < 0.05$, the Newman-Keuls further test was performed to see the differences between treatments. Water quality data were analyzed descriptively using the Microsoft Excel application and displayed in tables and graphs. To see the relationship of the number of bioballs and the density of bacteria with the water quality, a regression analysis was carried out.

Results and Discussion

Density of bacteria in the filter container. The results of bacterial density observations carried out on Plate Count Agar (PCA) media using the Total Plate Count method can be seen in Figure 2.

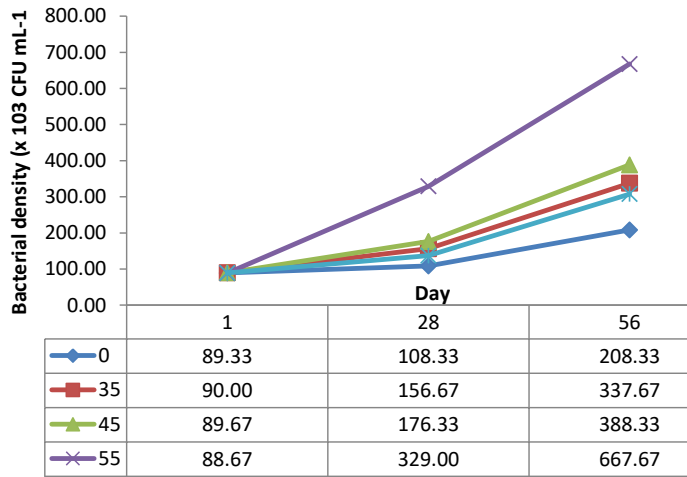


Figure 2. Bacterial density in all treatments during the study.

Figure 2 shows that the bacterial density from day 1 to day 28 in treatments with 0, 35, 45 and 65 bioball filters per container are relatively similar, in contrast to the treatment with 55 bioball filters per container, which caused a significant increase of bacteria, compared to the other treatments. This is due to the fact that the bacteria and *T. blochii* fish are permanently adapting to the media in which they live and to the fact that the nutrients resulting from the remaining feed and fish feces are still not sufficient to support the maximum bacterial growth. After the 28th day the number of bacteria in all treatments continued to increase, reaching a maximum peak on the 56th day. This is due to the increase in organic matter from fecal matter and fish feed along with the growth of the *T. blochii* specimens, which is a source of bacterial nutrition, thereby increasing the rate of bacterial development. In accordance with the opinion of Sunarto (2003), dissolved organic matter is needed by living bacteria, then Sidharta (2000) explains that organic material contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia, and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth. Administering KP SUPER N probiotics (routinely added in cultivation containers) causes continuous bacterial growth due to the availability of organic materials that can be used optimally. The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment of 55 bioball filters per container.

The highest bacterial density was found in the treatment with 55 bioball filters per container, at the end of the study, namely $667.7 \times 10^5 \text{ CFU mL}^{-1}$, demonstrating the optimality of a configuration consisting of: 55 bioballs for the given size of the filter (50 x 14 x 14 cm) and for the given volume of the culture media (80 L). These parameters are balanced in such a manner that bacteria receive a sufficient amount of oxygen, through the bioball cavity. According to Nelvia et al (2015), the bioball structure (not too compact) provides an opportunity for oxygen to enter the bioball cavity and to reach bacteria. If the oxygen is sufficient, then the bacteria growth determines an optimal functioning of the bioball.

The lowest bacterial density, $208.3 \times 10^5 \text{ CFU mL}^{-1}$, was found in treatment A without using bioballs, starter bacteria (KP SUPER N) and additional nutrients, resulting in a limited media for the growth and development of bacteria. The low density of

bacteria when using the highest number of bioball filters (65 container⁻¹) is due a number of bioballs almost exceeding the container capacity. According to Nelvia et al (2015) bioball too densely disposed in the gutter and lacking of oxygen supply can cause extinction of the bacteria in the bioball cavity. Consequently, the performance of the bioball filter decreases, suspending the process of decomposing organic matter by nitrifying bacteria.

The biofilter system removes ammonia. Ammonia accumulates and reaches toxic levels if it is not transferred by a nitrification process where the process, first oxidizing ammonia to toxic nitrite, then to nitrate, which is relatively non-toxic. The above process involves *Nitrosomonas* and *Nitrobacter* bacteria. Bacteria grow like a film on the surface of the material (biofilter container) or adhere to organic particles. Biofilter consists of a medium with a large surface for the growth of nitrite bacteria. In the recirculation system, bacteria play a role in converting toxic substances (ammonia) to non-toxic substances (nitrates). The performance of bacteria in the biofilter system is marked by an increase in the average biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) value in the culture medium (Nurhidayat et al 2012). The more bioballs, the more opportunities for bacteria to stick, when a viable oxygen level is still preserved (Nelvia et al 2015).

ANOVA results showed that the number of bioballs had an effect on the density of bacteria on day 28 and 56. The Newman Keuls range study test identifies the bacterial density differences between treatments. The results of the regression analysis between the number of bioballs and bacterial density provide the following regression equation:

$$Y = 227.9 + 3.851X$$

Where:

Y-bacterial density;

X-number of bioballs;

The calculated r was 0.557 and the R² was 0.311.

The results of the regression analysis showed that the number of bioballs had a positive correlation with the bacterial density (r=0.557). The increase in the number of bacteria in the filter container was influenced by the number of bioballs by 31.1 and 68.9%, which is thought to be influenced by the content of organic matter (Stepwise regression analysis). Nelvia et al (2015) stated that the bioball is a breeding ground for various bacteria needed in the breakdown of organic matter. According to Sunarto (2003) dissolved organic matter is needed by bacteria to live. Furthermore, according to Sidharta (2000) organic matter contains carbon, nitrate, phosphate, sulfur, ammonia and several minerals which are nutrients for bacterial growth.

Identification of bacteria in filter containers. Based on the observations, there were 7 pure bacterial isolates. The identification of bacteria against the isolates found in the filter media was carried out by physical, biochemical and sensitivity tests to see which bacteria had the greatest inhibition zone against pathogenic bacteria.

Physics test. The results of observations of color, shape, edge, elevation and gram of the seven isolates found are presented in Table 1.

Table 1

Observation results of bacterial characteristics

No	Isolate	Colony				Cell		Treatment
		Color	Shape	Edge	Elevation	Gram type	Shape	
1	A ₁	Yellow	Circular	Entire	Umbonate	Negative	Stem	P ₂ U ₁
2	A ₂	Beige	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₀ U ₃
3	A ₃	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₂
4	A ₄	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₁
5	A ₅	Beige	Filamentous	Entire	Filiform	Negative	Stem	P ₁ U ₁
6	A ₆	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₄ U ₂
7	A ₇	White	Circular	Entire	Raised	Negative	Stem	P ₃ U ₃

Table 1 shows that all bacterial isolates have gram-negative, entire edges and are rod-shaped. The dominant bacterial colony was white (4 isolates), 2 isolates were beige and 1 isolate was yellow. Colonies were circular or round (6 isolates) and filamentous (1 isolate). The elevation of the dominant bacterial colony was raised (5 isolates), 1 umbonate isolate and 1 filiform isolate.

Biochemical test. The results of observations of the Catalase, Oxidase, Motility, oxidative/fermentation (O/F) glucose, Indole and triple sugar iron agar (TSIA) tests are presented in Table 2.

Table 2
Bacterial biochemical test results

No.	Isolate	Biochemical characteristics						Treatment
		Catalase	Oxidase	Motility	O/F	Indole	TSIA	
1	A ₁	+	+	+	-	-	A/K	P ₂ U ₁
2	A ₂	+	+	-	F	-	K/K	P ₀ U ₃
3	A ₃	+	-	+	O	-	A/K	P ₃ U ₂
4	A ₄	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₁
5	A ₅	+	+	+	F	+	A/A	P ₁ U ₁
6	A ₆	+	+	+	F	-	A/A	P ₄ U ₂
7	A ₇	+	+	-	F	-	A/A	P ₃ U ₃

O-oxidative; F-fermentative; A/K-alkaline acid; K/K-alkaline; A/A-acid.

Table 2 shows a positive catalase enzyme test in all bacterial isolates, indicated by the gas bubbles formation during their reaction with the H₂O₂ drops. According to Stoica (2016), catalase is an enzyme contained in the majority of bacteria and it is involved in the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen. Hydrogen peroxide and oxygen are used for electron transport during fermentation in both aerobic and facultatively anaerobic bacteria.

Oxidase tests A₁, A₂, A₃, A₄, A₅, A₆ and A₇ are positive, as shown by the color change on the oxidase paper, which indicates activity, while A₃ is negative. Five isolates (A₁, A₃, A₄, A₅, A₆) showed positive results in the motility test, due to the spread of bacterial growth on the Sulfide Indole Motility (SIM) medium, and did not grow on the part of the stick site bacteria. The O/F test results showed no color change in the paraffin-covered media and a color change on the exposed media. Five bacterial isolates (A₂, A₄, A₅, A₆, A₇) were observed to be fermentative because the tube without paraffin and the tube filled with paraffin changed their color to yellow. According to Fahri (2008), in the O/F test, oxidative organisms occur at a color change in the open media, while fermentative organisms can be indicated by no color change in the closed media.

The indole test shows 6 isolates (A₁, A₂, A₃, A₄, A₆ and A₇) giving negative results, marked with a yellow color on the surface of the media, which means that the bacteria are unable to break down the amino acid tryptophan, and no red ring after dropping the Kovacs reagent in the sulfur, indole, motility (SIM) media. According to Acharya (2012), the indole test was carried out to determine the ability of bacteria to break down amino acid tryptophan and to form indole compounds. Tryptophan is hydrolyzed by tryptophanase to produce three possible end products, one of which being the indole. Indole production is detected by the Kovacs or Ehrlich's reagent, composed of 4-(dimethylamino)benzaldehyde, which reacts with the indole to produce a red compound. A positive reaction is indicated if there is a red color on the surface of the medium, which indicates that the bacteria are able to break down the amino acid tryptophan. In the TSIA test, 4 isolates (A₄, A₅, A₆ and A₇) showed acidic properties (A/A), 2 isolates (A₁ and A₃) were acid alkaline and 1 isolate (A₂) was alkaline.

Sensitivity test. The sensitivity test to pathogenic bacteria was carried out after observing the physical and biochemical tests of the seven isolates. This test aimed to find probiotic bacteria candidates for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing. The results of the sensitivity test on the 7 isolates are presented in Figure 3. Inhibition zones produced

by the seven bacterial isolates were found in different filter containers. Bacteria from isolate A₁ were able to inhibit the growth of *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period at a temperature of 37°C, as indicated by the formation of a clear area around the blank disk, but they were unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* and *Pseudomonas* bacteria. After an incubation period of 48 hours, the inhibition zone remains clear, which indicates that these bacteria can kill (bacteriocidal) *Vibrio* bacteria. Similarly, for the bacteria from isolate A₂, a clear zone was formed around the blank disk, indicating an inhibition of *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 48-hour incubation period, meaning that A₂ bacteria are bacteriocidal against *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio*, but they cannot inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas* bacteria.

Bacteria in A₃ and A₄ isolates were unable to inhibit the growth of *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, as shown by a no inhibition zone formed on the blank disk. In A₅ and A₇ isolates, an inhibition zone occurred against *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria during the 24-hour incubation period, but during the 48-hour incubation period, the clear area became cloudy, indicating that these bacteria were only able to inhibit (bacteriostatic) the three pathogenic bacteria. In A₆ isolate, a clear zone was also formed during the 48-hour incubation period against *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria, but no inhibition zone was formed against *Pseudomonas* bacteria. This indicates that the A₆ bacteria are able to kill (bacteriocidal) *Aeromonas* and *Vibrio* bacteria. This is in line with Azaldin et al (2020), who states that sensitivity of a material to bacteria is characterized by the presence of an inhibition zone around the blank disk. Furthermore, according to Dwyana & Murniati (2020), this inhibition area is formed due to bioactive compounds contained in microbes that produce exoenzymes which break down organic matter and secrete hydrolytic enzymes, proteases, lipases, amylases, and cellulose so that they are able to hydrolyze polysaccharides as a carbon source and electron donors.

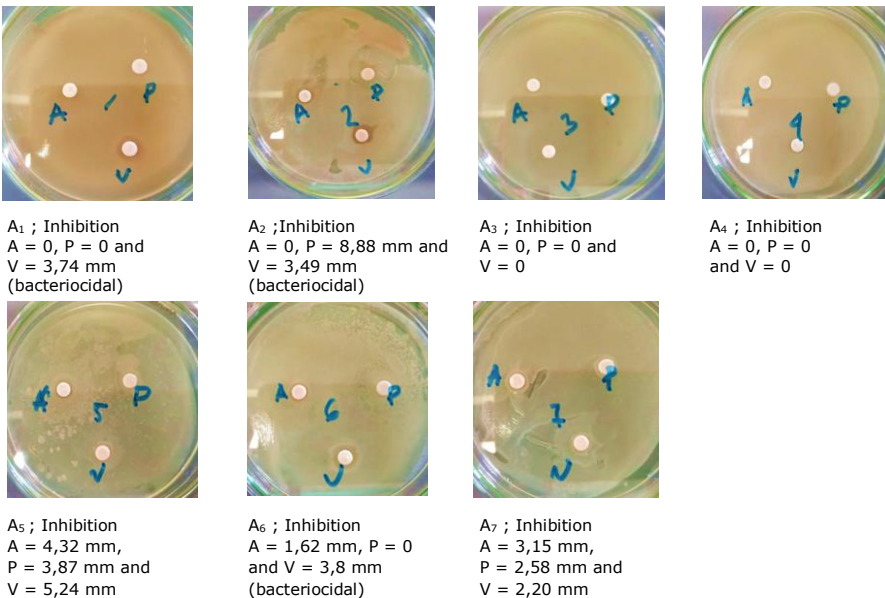


Figure 3. Sensitivity test of bacterial isolates against pathogenic bacteria (A: *Aeromonas*, P: *Pseudomonas*, V: *Vibrio*).

Madigan et al (2012) grouped bacteria based on their selective toxicity. According to them, antimicrobial compounds had 3 kinds of effects on the microbial growth: 1). Bacteriostatic inhibit growth but they do not kill. Bacteriostatic compounds inhibit protein synthesis or bind to ribosomes; 2). Bacteriocides kill cells but not cause cell lysis or cell

breakdown. 3). Bacteriolytic cause cells lysis or cell breakdown. Furthermore, Dwyana & Murniati (2020) stated that the sensitivity test on bacteria indicated that these were bacteriostatic after 24 hours of incubation period (clear zone formed on disc paper), while after 48 hours they were classified as bacteriocidal.

According to Jannata (2014), the responses related to the bacterial growth inhibition can be classified based on the inhibition zone diameter, as follows: weak (≤ 5 mm), medium (5-10 mm), strong (10-20 mm) and very strong (≥ 20 mm). Based on this scale, isolates A₅, A₆ and A₇ were classified as having a weak response to *Aeromonas*, isolate A₂ had a moderate response and isolates A₅ and A₇ had a weak response to *Pseudomonas* bacteria. Furthermore, A₅ isolate had a moderate response to *Vibrio* bacteria, while isolates A₁, A₂, A₆ and A₇ were classified as having a weak response. According to Sugita et al (1996), these bacteria are able to produce antimicrobial compounds, such as: siderophores, bacteriocins, lysozymes, proteases, hydrogen peroxidase, and organic acids, as a mechanism of competition for nutrients and energy, inhibiting the growth of pathogens in the filter container. According to Rengpipat et al (2000), the siderophore is a compound with a low molecular weight (<1500) and it is also a specific agent for ferric ions binding, which can dissolve iron precipitates and change them into the form required for microbial growth. An organism's ability to form siderophores causes inhibition in other organisms, especially in aquatic animal pathogens, due to their incapacity to obtain the required ferric ions.

Based on the results of observations on the inhibition zone diameter and inhibition power, the bacterial isolates selected as candidates for probiotic bacteria were: A₁, A₂ and A₆, classified as bacteriocidal, then coded MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3. Furthermore, to determine the type of the three bacteria, a DNA analysis was carried out using PCR.

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test

The results of amplification and visualization of DNA fragments of the 16S rRNA gene.

The genomic DNA had been isolated and extracted from isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3, and then the 16S rRNA markers were amplified using PCR technique. PCR analysis of the 3 bacteria isolates used a 27F forward primer: AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG and reverse primer 1492R: TACGGYTACCTTGTTACGACTT. The analysis results showed positive with the formation of bands with a total molecular weight (in base pairs - bp) of 1,000–1,500 bp. The results of amplified DNA visualization, using 27F and 1,492R primers electrophoresed with UV light, are presented in Figure 4. The amplified fragment has a molecular weight of 1,227-1,372 bp. Sequence analysis performed with Geneious reveals that isolates produce single clearly visible bands with a molecular weight of 1,331 bp (MUL_1), 1,227 bp (MUL_2) and 1,372 bp (MUL_3), according to the primary amplification size with 27F and 1,492R primers, by comparison using 1 Kb Ladder DNA. The size is in accordance with the expected size of the bacterial 16S rRNA genes, which is between 1,300–1,500 bp (Seprianto et al 2017).

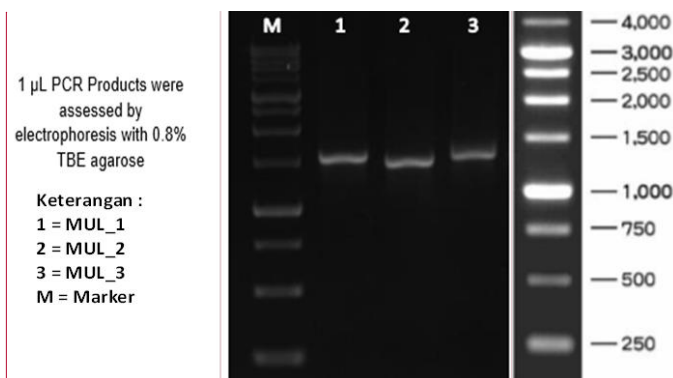
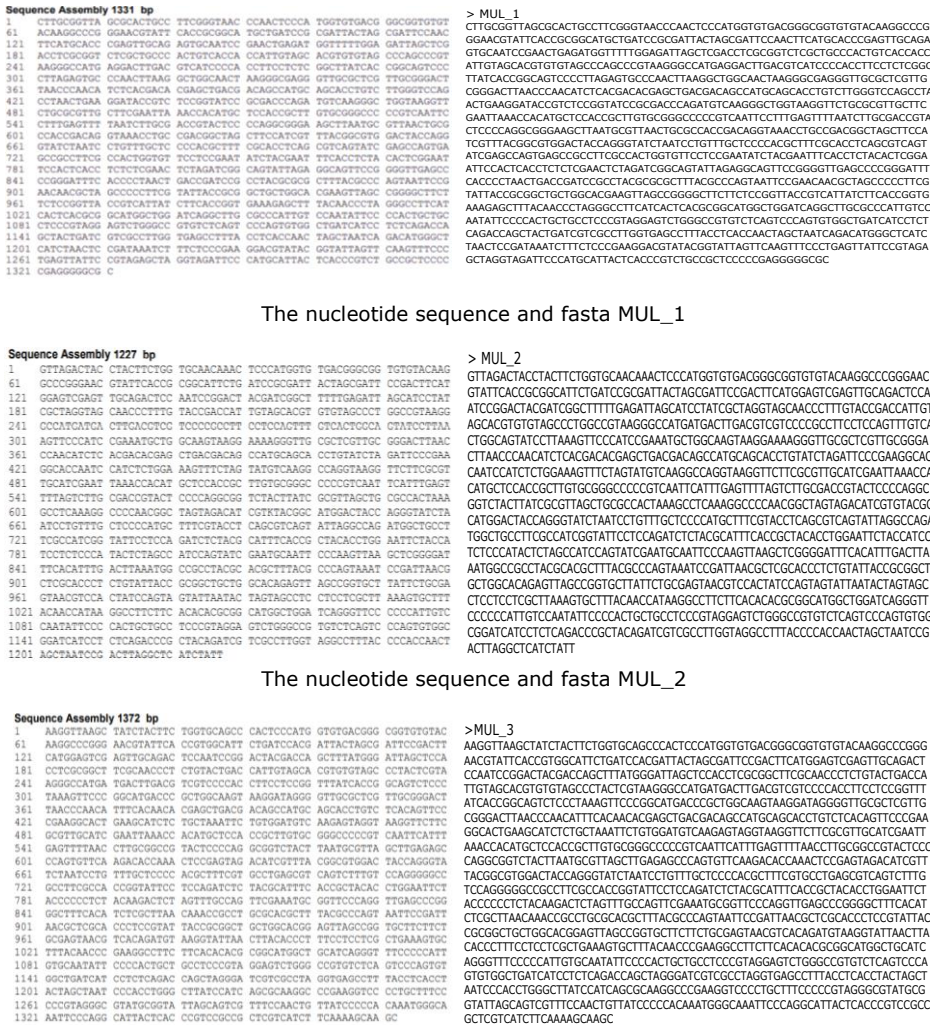


Figure 4. Results of universal DNA-PCR amplification on agarose gel.

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The base pairs obtained were combined and trimmed using the Bioedit 7.0 software. DNA sequencing analysis gives the following results for the nucleotide and protein FASTA sequences (Figure 5).



The nucleotide sequence and fasta MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3.

16S rRNA gene sequence alignment with basic local alignment search tool (BLAST). BLAST is accessible online via: <http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi> and provides the results of the DNA sequencing. A search was carried out for species identification, based on the percentage of the sequenced DNA homology with existing databases on GenBank. The identification results of probiotic bacterial isolates using BLAST correspond to the highest homology (closest relationship) with the bacteria in GenBank. Based on the nucleotides registered with the National Center for Biotechnology

Information (NCBI), the species, strains and accession numbers of bacterial isolates identified in this study are presented in Table 3.

Table 3
Results of tracing the 16S rRNA sequencing of bacterial isolates with the BLAST system

Isolate	Species	Strain	Accession number	Query coverage	Homology
MUL_1	<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp.	MUL37	MT229070	100%	100%
MUL_2	<i>Shewanella</i> sp.	MUL31	MT229068	100%	100%
MUL_3	<i>Nitratireductor</i> sp.	MUL35	MT229069	100%	100%

The alignment results of 16S rRNA gene sequences with BLAST (Table 3) showed that the bacterial isolate MUL_1 was identified as *Acinetobacter* sp. strain MUL37 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage, MUL_2 isolate was identified as *Shewanella* sp. strain MUL31 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage and bacterial isolate MUL_3 was identified as *Nitratireductor* sp. strain MUL35 with 100% homology and 100% query coverage. The types of bacteria found are thought to have come from the waters of the Batam Sea which are used as a medium for culturing *T. blochii*, because the starter bacteria added to the media do not contain these types of bacteria.

According to Adithiya et al (2017), the sequence equation between 93-97% can represent the identity of bacteria at the genus level but different at the species level. Furthermore, Hagstrom et al (2000) and Seprianto et al (2017) state that bacteria that have a 16S rRNA sequence equation greater than 97% are the same species, while the equation between 93-97% can represent identity at the genus level but differ at the species level. According to Dancourt et al (2000), if the similarity of the sequences is less than 97%, it is likely either a new species, since there is no data in the database, or the the sequencing results are too short to be relevant, when compared to the database.

Phylogenetic tree analysis. The analysis of phylogenetic tree formation was carried out by looking at the similarities that exist in the genetic isolates of MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 bacteria with a database of the results of alignment of nucleotide sequences in GenBank using the Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64 application. Phylogenetic trees analysis used the UPGMA (Unweighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Average), a clustering method based on the pairwise distance arithmetic means. Phylogenetic analysis used 17 sequences with 3 sample sequences and 14 comparison sequences, the alignment process used 1000 bootstraps and the Kimura 2 model parameters. Branches that connect the dots (nodes) are taxonomic units, such as species or genes and tree roots are the ancestors (ancestors) for all organisms. The dendrogram is presented in Figure 5.

Figure 5 shows that the bacteria MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 are in 1 cluster and that they are separated from the type of control bacteria, which means that MUL_1 and MUL_2 have close relationships, tending even to be of the same species or to belong to the same subspecies, while MUL_3 bacteria are from the same genus. Based on the the branching point's location, it could be considered that the three isolates were closely related to *Nitratireductor* and *Shewanella*.

According to the calculation results of the genetic distance (using Mega X 10.0.5 WIN 64), it was found that the distances between species varied, ranging from 0.00 to 1.6659. The smallest genetic distance, of 0.2005, was found between bacteria MUL_1 and MUL_2, while between MUL_1 and MUL_3 it was of 0.2081. The genetic distances found were the following: 1.2531 between bacteria MUL_1 and *Acinetobacter venetianus* (GenBank: NR.042049.1), 1.2955 between MUL_2 and *Shewanella algae* (GenBank: NR117771.1) and 1.2468 between MUL_3 and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus* (GenBank: 117929.1). According to Tallei et al (2016), the smaller the genetic distance between two organisms, the closer their kinship.

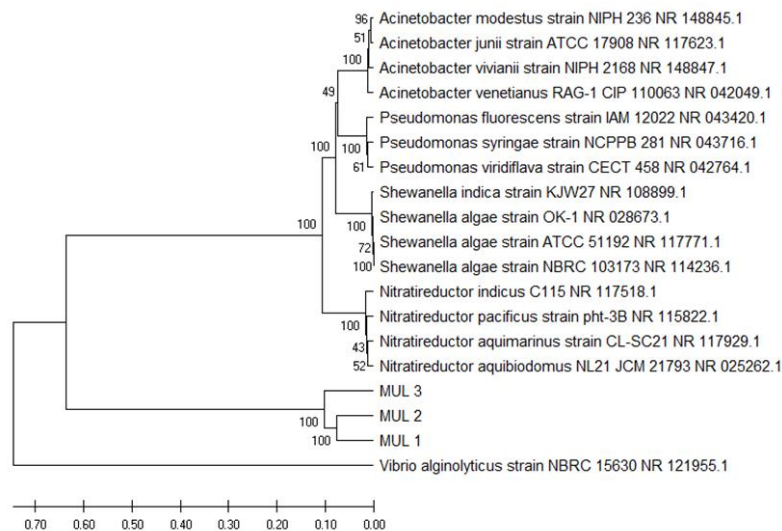


Figure 5. Phylogenetic tree dendrogram of isolates MUL_1, MUL_2 and MUL_3 with 16 comparative species.

Bauvet & Grimont (1986) stated that *Acinetobacter* (Isolate MUL_1) belongs to the kingdom *Acinetobacter*, phylum Proteobacteria, class Gammaproteobacteria, order Pseudomonadales, family Moraxellaceae, genus *Acinetobacter*. In general, these bacteria are rod-shaped, gram-negative, non-motile, catalase positive and oxidase negative, live aerobically, and are opportunistic. Beleneva & Maslennikova (2004) and Soslau et al (2011) reported that the *Acinetobacter* bacteria were found to be associated with several invertebrates such as mollusks, sea cucumbers, sea urchins, starfish and crustaceans.

Shewanella bacteria (Isolate MUL_2) belong to the Bacteria kingdom, the Proteobacteria phylum, the Gamma Proteobacteria class, the Alteromonadales order, the family Shewanellaceae and the genus *Shewanella*. The special characteristics of Shewanellae are their ability to capture electrons in oxygen deficient conditions and their ability to survive in various habitats (Gralnick & Newman 2007). The genus *Shewanella* is a gram-negative rod-shaped proteobacteria, 2-3 μm long and 0.4-0.7 μm in diameter. These bacteria are facultative anaerobic bacteria that are commonly found in marine sediments and can swim with the help of a single polar flagellum (Venkateswaran et al 1999). *Shewanella* is a genus of metal reducing bacteria found in marine environments, freshwater, lakes, land or terrestrial, rivers, Arctic and Antarctic oceans, corroded oil pipes and aquifer environments contaminated with uranium. These bacteria are widely used for bioremediation or environmental cleaning of pollutants such as chlorinated compounds, radionuclides and other environmental pollutants (Venkateswaran et al 1999).

According to Labbe et al (2004), *Nitratireductor* (Isolate MUL_3) belongs to the kingdom Bacteria, phylum Proteobacteria, class Alpha Proteobacteria, order Rhizobiales, family Phyllobacteriaceae and genus *Nitratireductor*. *Nitratireductor* bacteria isolated from sea water in the Indian Ocean and marine sediments in the Pacific Ocean have the ability to reduce ammonia, are rod-shaped and form white bacterial colonies. The optimum temperature for their growth is 25-35°C and pH 5-12.

Water quality. The results of observations on temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), TAN, nitrite, (NO_2) and nitrate (NO_3) in all treatments during the study are presented in Table 4.

Table 4
Average temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), total ammonia nitrogen (TAN), nitrite (NO₂) and nitrate (NO₃) in all treatments during the study

Parameters	Number of bioball of each filter container				
	0	35	45	55	65
Temp. (°C)	28.6-29.1	28.4-29.1	28.7-29.1	28.6-29.1	28.6-29.1
pH	7.5-7.7	7.6-7.7	7.6-7.7	7.6-7.8	7.6-7.7
DO (mg L ⁻¹)	6.2-6.5	6.2-6.6	6.2-6.6	6.3-6.7	6.2-6.6
Salinity (g L ⁻¹)	15	15	15	15	15
TAN (mg L ⁻¹)	0.61-1.58	0.28-1.59	0.18-1.56	0.06-1.57	0.12-1.56
Nitrite (mg L ⁻¹)	0.624-0.953	0.209-0.863	0.170-0.875	0.120-0.861	0.129-0.874
Nitrate (mg L ⁻¹)	0.820-1.12	0.98-1.40	0.96-2.15	0.93-3.07	0.98-1.42

Table 4 shows that all water parameters, namely: temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (DO), ammonia (NH₃) and nitrite (NO₂) are relatively similar in all treatments, except for the nitrate content. The highest nitrate content was found in the treatment with 55 bioball filters per container. In general, temperature, pH, DO, TAN, nitrite and nitrate are in a good range for the growth of *T. blochii*.

SNI 7901.4 (2013) and Ashari et al (2014) state that the optimal temperature for the growth of *T. blochii* ranges from 28 to 32°C, and the pH ranges from 6.8 to 8.4. According to Ezraneti et al (2019), *T. blochii* fish can live optimally at a salinity of 14-19 ppt. SNI 7901.4 (2013) requires a dissolved oxygen level of at least 5 mg L⁻¹ for the rearing of *T. blochii* seeds. Royan et al (2019) reported that the lethal concentration (LC50) of TAN ranges from 1.10 to 22.8 mg L⁻¹ for invertebrates and from 0.56 to 2.37 mg L⁻¹ for fish, within 24-96 hours after exposure. The nitrite level for the maintenance of *T. blochii* seeds is of maximum 1 mg L⁻¹ (SNI 7901.4. 2013).

The highest nitrate concentration was found in the treatment with 55 bioball filters containers⁻¹ for a volume of 9.8 L, optimal for nitrification bacterial culture media. The higher the number of bacteria, the faster the nitrification process, resulting in an increase in the concentration of nitrate in the media. According to Lampert & Sommer (2007), bacteria have proteolytic enzymes that can break down organic nitrogen into nitrates, which are nutrients needed by phytoplankton and other aquatic microflora. Furthermore, Nelvia et al (2015) obtained the almost the same optimal number of bioballs for the growth of goldfish, namely 50 bioball filters per container of 9.8 L. Nitrate levels obtained during the study were still in accordance with the quality standards referred to in the Government Regulation No. 82 of 2001, namely <20 mg L⁻¹. Effendi (2014) considers a nitrate content of 0-1 mg L⁻¹ in the oligotrophic (low) category and a content of 1-5 mg L⁻¹ in the mesotrophic (moderate) category. According to Ulqodry et al (2010), normal nitrate content in marine waters generally ranges from 0.01-50 mg L⁻¹. Furthermore, Hartoko (2010) reports that algae, especially phytoplankton, can grow optimally at a nitrate content of 0.009-3.5 mg L⁻¹.

Relationship between number of bioballs and water quality. The results of the regression analysis between the number of bioballs with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 shows that the number of bioballs has the greatest effect on the TAN reduction (R²=0.931 or 93.1%), with a very strong negative linear correlation (r=0.965), meaning that the ammonia concentration decreases by adding bioballs in the filter container. This is because in the filter media there are several types of nitrifying bacteria derived from the introduced starter bacteria, namely *Nitrosomonas* sp. and *Nitrobacter* sp., in addition to the bacteria found in the bioball, namely *Acinetobacter* sp., *Shewanella algae* and *Nitratireductor aquimarinus*. The presence of these bacteria can accelerate the oxidation process of TAN, which is toxic to fish, into non-toxic nitrate through the nitrification process.

Table 5
Linear regression analysis between the number of bioballs with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation coefficient (r)	Coefficient of determination (R ²)
Temperature	Y=289.72-0.038 X	-0.767	0.589
pH	Y=759.51+0.067 X	0.444	0.197
Dissolved oxygen (DO)	Y=634.56+0.196 X	0.650	0.423
TAN	Y=58.29-0.83 X	-0.965	0.931
Nitrite (NO ₂)	Y=587.55-8.345 X	-0.949	0.900
Nitrate (NO ₃)	Y= 94.73+1.75 X	0.664	0.441

The value of r=0 indicates that there is no correlation between the two variables (number of bioballs and water quality), r<0.25 indicates a very weak correlation, r>0.25 and <0.5 shows a sufficient correlation, r> 0.5 and <0.75 suggest a strong correlation, r>0.75 and <0.99 demonstrate a very strong correlation and r=1 signifies a perfect correlation; R²≥0.5 (50%) measures the ability to explain the dependent variable (water tanquality) by the independent variable (number of bioballs) (Sarwono 2012).

Relationship between bacterial density and water quality. The results of regression analysis between bacterial density and temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃ are presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Linear regression analysis between bacterial density with temperature, pH, DO, TAN, NO₂ and NO₃

Parameter	Linear regression equation	Correlation coefficient (r)	Coefficient of determination (R ²)
Temperature	Y=289.50-0.003 X	-0.226	0.475
pH	Y=756.37+0.015 X	0.695	0.484
Dissolved oxygen (DO)	Y=289.50+0.036 X	0.816	0.667
TAN	Y=59.578-0.090 X	-0.725	0.526
Nitrite (NO ₂)	Y=557.73-0.796 X	-0.625	0.391
Nitrate (NO ₃)	Y=30.304+0.352 X	0.923	0.852

Table 6 shows that bacterial density has the greatest influence on the increase in nitrate concentration in the *T. Blochii* rearing medium (R²=0.852 or 85.2%). This is due to the presence of *Nitrosomonas* bacteria, *Nitrobacter* which are included as a starter in the filter container, and to the heterotrophic bacteria in the bioball, which accelerate the ammonia to turn into nitrate, so that the nitrate concentration increases with the bacterial density.

Conclusions. The number of bioballs had an effect (P<0.05) on the bacterial density. The best treatment was found in the use of 55 bioball filters per container, in a volume of 9.8 L, which gave a bacterial density of 667.67±1.53 x 10⁵ CFU mL⁻¹. The number of bioballs had an influence on the bacterial density by (R²=31.1%). The bacteriocidal types found in the filter media are *Acinetobacter*, *Shewanella* and *Nitratireductor*. The number of bioballs strongly affected the decrease in TAN (R²=93.1%), while the bacterial density strongly influenced the increase in nitrates (R²=85.2%).

Acknowledgements. The authors would like to thank the Institute for Research and Community Service, University of Riau (Riau University Research Center) and the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (Ristekdikti) for funding this research.

Conflict of interests. None reported.

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Received: 16 November 2020. Accepted: 2021. Published online: 2021.

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How to cite this article:

Mulyadi, Pamukas N. A., Tang U. M., Amin B., Sukendi, 2021 Density and types of probiotic bacteria in filter media with different number of bioballs in culturing media of snubnose pompano (*Trachinotus blochii*) with recirculation system. *AAFL Bioflux* 14(x):....

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