Pathogenic Race and Mating Type of *Pyricularia oryzae* from Soviet Union, China, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia and Colombia

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Abstract

A total of 130 isolates of *Pyricularia oryzae* from 6 countries were tested for the identification of pathogenic race and mating type. The number of races identified from country of origin was, Soviet Union-3 Japanese races [3 international races], China-7 [9], Nepal-2 [2], Thailand-3 [2], Indonesia-4 [4], and Colombia-5 [12]. The reaction of these races identified by means of Japanese and international rice cultivars did not always correspond. About 40% of the isolates used were of undetermined pathogenic race, because of inconsistent host reaction. The phenotypic variability in pathogenic reaction could be due to the heterogeneity of the differential rice cultivars as well as to the pathogenic change of the blast fungus itself. The presence of both mating types was confirmed in the isolates from China and Colombia, but in the Russian and Nepalese collection mating type A was only detected. On the other hand, all of the Indonesian isolates used were of mating type a.

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Key words : *Pyricularia oryzae*, pathogenic race, mating type.

Introduction

Pyricularia oryzae Cav. causes blast, an economically important disease of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) in all rice growing areas of the world. Pathogenic specialization in this causal agent was first reported by Sasaki in 1922¹⁵⁾, and several decades later a race differential system was developed in Japan, USA and other countries^{2, 3, 5, 10, 20)}. In addition, to compare the pathogenicity of *P. oryzae* in different countries, an international set of differential cultivars was developed through the Japan-USA cooperative work¹⁾, and two years later standardization of the international race numbers of *P. oryzae* was proposed by Ling and Ou¹²⁾. Since a set of differential rice cultivars was established in each country, numerous reports have been published on races of the rice blast fungus. These data have provided valuable information for genetic analysis of blast resistance and their use for developing resistant varieties, although there is controversy as to the frequency of pathogenic variation in this organism^{4, 9, 11, 13)}. However, information available on the blast resistance of various lines introduced from foreign countries is limited, because of lack of suitable test isolates pathogenic to given line. It appears that effective use

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of resistance genes from foreign sources requires to know the ledge of pathogenicity of foreign isolates and their capacity for variation before blast-resistant varieties can be developed.

On the other hand, Hebert⁶⁾, Kato *et al.*⁷⁾, Ueyama *et al.*¹⁶⁾ and Yaegashi *et al.*¹⁷⁾ succeeded in combining compatible isolates under suitable condition for development of the perfect state of the blast fungus, which can serve as a good basis for genetic study of this organism. Since a survey of pathogenicity and cross fertility of blast isolates should provide basic information to select the isolates for genetic analysis of blast resistance, and to elucidate the mechanism of pathogenic variability, an attempt was made to determine the pathogenic race and mating type of *P. oryzae* isolates collected in the Soviet Union, China, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia and Colombia. Results are reported herein.

Materials and Methods

Monoconidial isolates obtained from blast specimens or cultures from the Soviet Union, China, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia and Colombia were used for race identification and mating tests. Origins of the isolates used are indicated in Table 1. Seedlings of each set of Japanese and international differential rice cultivars were inoculated at the 4-leaf stage by spraying a spore suspension. Ten plants of each cultivar were inoculated with each isolate. Inoculated plants were incubated in a moist chamber at 26-28 C for 20 hours, then returned to the greenhouse. Seven to eight days after inoculation, the pathogenic race of each isolate was determined on the basis of reactions of the differential cultivars. The type of the most susceptible lesion produced on the leaves of the host was used as the criterion for estimating pathogenicity of the isolate. The test isolate was considered to be virulent if large whitish lesions (W or PW type) or large eyespots with brown margin (bG type) were induced on a given cultivar. On the other hand if no symptoms, brown pinpoint lesions (b type) or small eyespot lesions less than 1 mm in diameter with gray center (bg type) were incited, the isolate was considered to be avirulent to the cultivar. In case of seedling reaction differing from plant to plant, pathogenicity of the isolate was estimated from the lesion type of not less than 6 plants for convenience. Race identification was confirmed at least twice. In order to get information on pathogenic variability, an inoculation test of selected isolates was repeated 5 to 6 times during 1982 to 1984. Only results consistent through the repeated inoculation tests were shown, and others were shown as the undetermined pathogenic race even if the same result was obtained in 5 times out of 6 trials.

Mating type classification was attempted for all isolates used. Mating type was determined by crossing monoconidial isolates with fertile tester lines of mating types A and a of isolates from finger millet [*Eleusine coracana* (L.) Gaertn.]. Grosses were made by pouring a mycelial suspension of the tester line over the surface of oat meal agar (50 g ground oat, 15 g agar in 1 liter of water) on which were placed mycelial plugs of unknown isolates. Petri dishes of crosses were incubated for 2-3 weeks at 22 C with continuous illumination. Other techniques for crossing were described previously¹⁸⁾.

Results

A total of 130 isolates of *P. oryzae* were tested for the identification of pathogenic

Table 1. Origin, race and mating type of the isolates of *Pyricularia oryzae* collected in Soviet Union, China, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia and Colombia

Isolate	Locality	Variety or line	J-Race ^{a)}	I-Race ^{b)}	Mating type
SO - 1*	Soviet Union, Ukrainian Khersonskaya		— ^{c)}	—	— ^{c)}
SO - 2*	do.		—	—	—
SO - 3*	do.		—	—	—
SO - 4**	do.		001	IH -1	A
SO - 5**	do.		001	IH -1	A
SO - 6**	Odesskaya		007	IG -1	A
SO - 7**	do.		000	II -1	A
SO - 8**	do.		007	IG -1	A
SO - 9**	do.		007	IG -1	A
CH - 1*	China, Yunnun, Kunming	310	—	—	a
CH - 2*	do.	do.	—	—	a
CH - 3*	do.	Yunnuo 9	107	—	—
CH - 4*	do.	830	036	—	a
CH - 5*	do.	do.	036	IC -25	a
CH - 6*	do.	do.	036	IA -82	a
CH - 7*	do.	Linzinhuang	—	—	a
CH - 8*	do.	do.	—	IC -29	—
CH - 9*	do.	Dianxie	033	—	—
CH -10*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CH -11*	do.	do.	—	IC -20	—
CH -12*	Dali	Yizhuqing	003	IG -1	A
CH -13*	do.	do.	003	IG -1	—
CH -14*	do.	Yunnuo 9	—	ID -15	A
CH -15*	do.	do.	003	IH -1	A
CH -16*	Baoshan	Jingguo 5223	003	IH -1	—
CH -17*	do.	do.	001	IH -1	A
CH -18*	do.	Jingguo 4911	301	IH -1	A
CH -19*	do.	do.	301	IH -1	A
CH -20*	do.	Jingguo 92	001	IH -1	A
CH -21*	do.	do.	001	—	—
CH -22*	do.	do.	001	IG -1	—
CH -23*	Yuxi	Xinan 175	003	IG -1	A
CH -24*	Zhaotong	Yunnuo 2	003	IH -1	A
CH -25*	do.	Jingyin 314	007	IG -1	—
CH -26*	Chuxiong	Xinan 175	003	IH -1	—
CH -27*	do.	do.	—	IH -1	—
CH -28*	do.	do.	003	—	—

Table 1. continued

Isolate	Locality	Variety or line	J-Race ^{a)}	I-Race ^{b)}	Mating type
CH -29*	Chuxiong	Xinan 175	003	IH-1	—
CH -30*	do.	Jinnuo 1	003	IH-1	—
CH -31*	do.	do.	003	IG-1	—
CH -32*	Yingjiang	Nanjiog 1	—	ID-1	—
CH -33*	do.	do.	—	ID-16	—
CH -34*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CH -35*	do.	do.	—	ID-1	—
CH -36*	Tengchong	Jingguo 332	003	ID-15	—
CH -37*	do.	Tengxian 1	—	—	a
CH -38*	do.	do.	—	ID-1	a
CH -39*	do.	Lufenggu	—	ID-1	a
CH -40*	do.	do.	—	—	a
CH -41*	do.	do.	—	—	a
NE - 1*	Nepal, Khumaltar, Lalitpur	Taichung 176	007	IG-1	—
NE - 2*	do.	do.	007	IG-1	A
NE - 3*	do.	do.	007	IG-1	A
NE - 4*	do.	Sankharika	007	IG-1	A
NE - 5	do.	do.	002	—	—
NE - 6	do.	do.	—	—	—
NE - 7	do.	do.	—	ID-13	—
TH - 1	Thailand, Lod Bua Luang	RD 25	—	IA-127	—
TH - 2	do.	do.	002	—	—
TH - 3	do.	do.	402	IA-127	—
TH - 4	do.	do.	402	IA-127	—
TH - 5	do.	RD 23	106	ID-13	—
IN - 1**	Indonesia, West Java, Kumingan	S382b-18-2	006	IG-1	a
IN - 2**	do.	do.	006	—	a
IN - 3**	Bogor	Sigadis	—	IG-1	a
IN - 4**	do.	do.	006	ID-14	a
IN - 5**	do.	do.	006	IC-13	a
IN - 6**	do.	do.	—	—	a
IN - 7**	do.	do.	006	—	a
IN - 8**	do.	do.	—	IG-1	a
IN - 9**	Garut	C 22	—	—	a
IN - 10**	do.	do.	—	—	a
IN - 11**	do.	do.	000	IG-2	a
IN - 12**	do.	do.	—	IG-2	a
IN - 13**	do.	do.	000	IG-2	a
IN - 14**	do.	C 22	004	—	a
IN - 15**	do.	S263b-35-3-2	004	—	a
IN - 16**	do.	do.	006	—	a
IN - 17**	do.	do.	004	—	a

Table 1. continued

Isolate	Locality	Variety or line	J-Race ^{a)}	I-Race ^{b)}	Mating type
IN -18**	Garut	S263b-35-3-2	006	—	a
IN -19**	do.	do.	—	IG -2	a
IN -20**	do.	S382b-3-1	—	—	a
IN -21**	do.	do.	—	—	a
IN -22**	do.	do.	—	—	a
IN -23**	do.	S263-37-2-2	—	—	a
IN -24**	do.	do.	—	—	a
IN -25**	do.	do.	004	—	a
IN -26**	do.	do.	002	—	a
IN -27**	West Sumatra, Gunun Medan	Bicol	—	—	a
CO - 1	Colombia villavicencio	IR 22	—	IE -1	—
CO - 2*	do.	do.	136	—	—
CO - 3*	do.	CICA 8	—	IC -18	—
CO - 4*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO - 5*	do.	IRAT 128	—	IG -1	A
CO - 6*	do.	do.	002	—	A
CO - 7*	do.	7639	—	—	—
CO - 8*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO - 9*	do.	7955	—	—	—
CO -10*	do.	do.	132	—	—
CO -11*	do.	IRAT 8	002	IH -1	A
CO -12*	do.	do.	002	IC -24	A
CO -13*	do.	do.	002	IE -4	A
CO -14*	do.	do.	002	IC -23	—
CO -15*	do.	Bbt 50	—	—	—
CO -16*	do.	do.	—	ID -13	—
CO -17*	do.	do.	—	IG -1	—
CO -18*	do.	do.	006	IG -2	—
CO -19*	do.	do.	006	—	a
CO -20*	do.	do.	006	—	—
CO -21*	do.	Tikal 2	002	—	A
CO -22*	do.	do.	—	—	A
CO -23*	do.	Bg 90-2	136	IE -1	—
CO -24*	do.	CICA 7	002	—	A
CO -25*	do.	do.	002	IH -1	—
CO -26*	do.	Tetep	136	IC -8	a
CO -27*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO -28*	do.	MI-48	—	—	—
CO -29*	do.	do.	102	—	—
CO -30*	Granada-Meta	5869	136	—	a
CO -31*	do.	do.	136	—	—
CO -32*	do.	5865	—	—	—
CO -33*	do.	do.	—	IB -33	—
CO -34*	do.	do.	—	—	—

Table 1. continued

Isolate	Locality	Variety or line	J-Race ^{a)}	I-Race ^{b)}	Mating type
CO -35*	Granada-Meta	5865	—	IC -1	—
CO -36*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO -37*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO -38*	do.	IR 1529	006	IG -1	—
CO -39*	do.	do.	—	—	—
CO -40*	do.	do.	006	—	—
CO -41*	do.	do.	006	—	—

a), b): Races identified on Japanese and international differential cultivars, respectively.

c): Undetermined race or mating type.

d)*, **: Isolates collected in 1981 and 1982, respectively, and others collected in 1983.

race and mating type. Results are summarized with the source of isolates in Table 1. Based on the reaction of the Japanese differential cultivars, 16 races were identified, and on the international set of differential rice cultivars, 23 races. The race identity of a fairly large number of isolates was not determined because of inconsistent host reaction. The number of races identified from country of origin was, Soviet Union-3 Japanese races [3 international races], China-7 [9], Nepal-2 [2], Thailand-3 [2], Indonesia-4 [4] and Colombia-5 [12]. Race composition varied with country of origin. In the isolates from the Soviet Union and Nepal, races 007 [IG-1] and 001 [IH-1] or 002 were identified. In addition, some characteristic isolates were obtained from the Russian collection. Three Russian isolates did not produce typical susceptible lesions on any differential cultivars despite a remarkable sporulation of these isolates on media, but tiny grayish lesions (g type) were incited on Aichiasahi, Ishikarishiroke, Kanto 51, Tsuyake and Yashiromochi. Moreover, the host reaction occasionally varied among replications. Results of a previous study¹⁹⁾ suggest that the Russian isolates may lack of the complementary gene(s) necessary for lesion expansion. Seven Japanese races and 9 international races were detected in the isolates from China, and race 003 was most prevalent. Thus, race composition of Chinese isolates was relatively complex, and the reaction of these races identified by means of Japanese and international differentials did not always correspond. For instance, race 003 corresponded to two international races IG-1 and IH-1. In contrast, IG-1 corresponded to Japanese races 001, 003 and 301. Similar phenomena were observed in the isolates from Indonesia and Colombia. Another characteristic is that no isolates from Thailand, Indonesia or Colombia were virulent to Shin 2 (*Pi-k^s*), a Japanese differential cultivar susceptible to most Japanese isolates.

Of the 67 isolates for which a compatible mating type was determined, 26 isolates were type A and 41 were type a. Mating type distribution by country of origin was, Soviet Union-6A, China-9A: 11a, Nepal-3A, Thailand-undetermined, Indonesia-27a, and Colombia-8A: 3a. Although mating types A and a occurred with nearly equal frequencies among the isolates from China, both mating types were not detected in the same locality of Yunnan. All 27 of the Indonesian isolates were of mating type a. In isolates from the Soviet Union, Nepal and Colombia, however, the population sampled was not

sufficiently large to determine mating type frequency, except for the presence of both mating types in Colombia. An attempt was made to produce the perfect state of *P. oryzae* by pairing isolates of determined mating types. No perithecia developed in any of the crosses attempted.

To determine the actual extent of pathogenic variability, additional surveys were conducted using some types of isolates inconsistent pathogenic reaction. Some isolates indicated a consistent reaction on differential cultivars, but with other isolates the pathogenic reaction varied among inoculation tests. The extent of pathogenic variation depended upon the isolates (Table 2); *i.e.*, the pathogenic reaction of the one isolate (CH-34) varied from test to test for race identification, but in the others (CH-37 and IN-8) a different reaction was observed only once out of 6 replicates. The difference in pathogenic reaction of these isolates is, in most cases, caused by the pathogenic change to only a couple of differential cultivars. It would be too hasty a conclusion that the phenotypic difference in pathogenic reaction was caused by the pathogenic variation of the isolate itself. Since pathogenic race is determined on the basis of host reaction, a

Table 2. Inconsistent race reactions of some isolates of *Pyricularia oryzae* to Japanese differentials

Isolate	Replicate					
	I	II *	III	IV	V	VI
CH -34	016	136	137	537	102	136
CH -37	136	136	106	136	136	136
CH -41	116	136	136	136	106	106
IN - 6	006	006	002	006	004	006
IN - 8	006	006	006	006	006	004
IN -27	002	002	002	002	102	102
CO - 9	132	132	132	132	136	136
CO -17	002	007	006	006	006	006
CO -37	132	136	132	136	136	132

a) Race identification of replicates of I, II, and III was conducted in 1982, IV and V in 1983, and VI in 1984.

b) *: Re-isolated culture from a lesion on the differential cultivar was used.

Table 3. Reaction of 36 selfed lines^{a)} of Sha-tiao-tsao-S to 4 isolates of *Pyricularia oryzae*

Isolate	Number of selfed lines to which ^{b)}		
	all S	S/R	all R
CH -41	1	24	11
TH - 2	0	0	36
CO -17	28	7	1
CO -22	7	28	1

a) Each of selfed lines derived from a single seed of Sha-tiao-tsao-S selected randomly.

b) Five seedlings per line were used for inoculation test. All S (R): Selfed line consisted of susceptible (resistant) individuals only. S/R: Selfed line consisted of susceptible and resistant individuals.

genetic homogeneity of the differential cultivars would be needed to know the true pathogenic variability. As a matter of fact, a heterogeneity of rice cultivar was occasionally observed in reaction to blast isolates. This tendency seems to be more remarkable in combination of rice cultivar and blast isolate originating from different localities from each other. Reaction of Sha-tiao-tsao-S, the international differential cultivar, to 4 isolates was cited here as an example of the varietal heterogeneity. Five seedlings each of 36 selfed lines were sprayed with spore suspensions, and the reaction of each plant to the isolates was estimated 7 days after inoculation (Table 3). Reaction of the selfed lines of Sha-tiao-tsao-S differed from line to line; *i. e.*, some lines consisted of susceptible or resistant seedlings only, and others were a mixture of susceptible and resistant seedlings. Moreover, the reaction of each selfed line varied with the isolates used.

Discussion

No perithecia developed in crosses of rice isolates, *P. oryzae*, despite the presence of both mating types. However, the possibility of pathogenic variation by hybridization can not eliminate completely, because the production of the perfect state of *P. oryzae* has been reported by Kato *et al.*⁹⁾, although it seems to be rare. The frequency of mating type distribution was not always even. Especially in the Indonesian collection, mating type distribution was completely onesided. This is probably due to the difference in fitness to survive. Or, on the contrary, it may suggest the possibility of pathogenic variation not in terms of sexual recombination, because some races were identified from the Indonesian isolates consisting of the same mating type only.

Of most interest here is the question as to the pathogenic variability in *P. oryzae*. In fact, a little more than 40% of the isolates used were of undetermined pathogenic race, because of inconsistent host reaction. However, the phenotypic change in pathogenic reaction does not always mean the true pathogenic change of the isolate. This is because heterogeneity of the differential rice cultivar also gives rise to the phenotypic variation of pathogenicity. For instance, if a pair of heterogeneous rice cultivars is included among race differentials, a race can be divided into four races or to show inconsistent pathogenic reaction among replications. Since it is actually difficult to get seed stocks of rice in which the genetic background is completely identical, the phenomena mentioned above might be in a sense a natural result especially on the combination of rice cultivar and blast isolate without any long association. The importance of using isogenic lines is clearly evident for precise study of pathogenic variability.

Similar phenomena were observed also in the pathogenicity of blast isolates to differential rice cultivars. This means that the isolates belonging to a race are not always identical in spectrum of pathogenicity, as has been already pointed out by Ou¹⁴⁾. There is a case that the isolates belonging to the same race are subdivided into two or more groups depending on the differential cultivars used. This result probably means that blast isolates are diverse in their genetic background. However, this is a distinctly different feature from the inconsistent reaction in pathogenicity. Races of the blast fun-

gus were not transitory phenomena, but fairly fixed characters at least in more than half of the isolates used here. As far as pathogenic character is fixed, the isolates could be used for genetic study of blast resistance, although nothing could be better than using isolates with the same genetic background.

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和 文 摘 要

八重樫博志・山田昌雄：ソ連，中国，ネパール，タイ，インドネシアおよびコロンビア産イネいもち病菌のレースと交配型

6カ国産イネいもち病菌計130菌株についてレースと交配型の検定を行った。日本のレース判別品種（および国際レース判別品種）により同定したレースの数は，ソ連産菌株で3種類（3種類），中国産菌株で7種類（9種類），ネパール産菌株で2種類（2種類），タイ産菌株で3種類（2種類），インドネシア産菌株で4種類（4種類），およびコロンビア産菌株で5種類（12種類）であった。日本のレース判別品種と国際レース判別品種とで検定した結果は必ずしも一致しなかった。また，供試菌株の約40%は，一部の品種における反応が反復実験の度に異なったため，レースを同定できなかった。レース反応が一定しない理由としては，菌自体の病原

性変異のほか、一部の判別品種の遺伝的不均一性が関与していると考えられる。中国およびコロンビア産菌株では両交配型の存在が確認されたが、ソ連およびネパール産菌株では交配型Aだけが確認された。なお、インドネシア産菌株の交配型は、全供菌株試とも交配型aであった。