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**“Resource Management:
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IDENTIFICATION OF *Musa textilis* USING RAPD MARKERS*

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ABSTRACT

Musa textilis (abaca or Manila hemp) is a fibre producing plant, long time known being native to the Philippines. Its fibre has been used for many purposes i.e. for marine cordage, clothes, filters, document paper, meat casings, curtain stiffness. As a rich country of biodiversity, it is believed that the Indonesian archipelago is also a potential habitat of this plant, scattered out among many kinds of Musaceae. The plant identification and characterization for further development were carried out through assessing the pattern of DNA polymorphisms. The value of this RAPD approach is supported by the chromosome number and the morphological characteristics.

Five decamer primers (5'-3') were used to reveal the banding patterns of 35 numbers of plants collected from different places in Java and Sulawesi. A dendogram generated from a matrix of genetic distances demonstrated three distinct clusters (A, B, C) which were separated each other by more than 65% of the product differing. Evidence from the chromosome number, the plant morphology, and this genetic characteristic indicated that plants confined in the cluster A were *Musa textilis*.

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