



# Effects of Different Inducer on the Accumulation of Essential Oil from Endophytic Fungi of *Cinnamomum longepaniculatum*

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**How to cite this paper:** Yan, K., Yuan, P. and Wei, Q. (2019) Effects of Different Inducer on the Accumulation of Essential Oil from Endophytic Fungi of *Cinnamomum longepaniculatum*. *Open Access Library Journal*, 6: e5337.

<https://doi.org/10.4236/oalib.1105337>

**Received:** March 14, 2019

**Accepted:** April 8, 2019

**Published:** April 11, 2019

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## Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of different inducer on the accumulation of essential oil in *C. longepaniculatum* endophytic fungus. The effect of the essential oil accumulation in the *C. longepaniculatum* fungus was studied by adding different inducer with an *C. longepaniculatum* endophytic fungus (serial number 2J1) with the ability of producing essential oil. The results show that the accumulation of essential oil can be greatly promoted by adding CaSO<sub>4</sub> 1.5 mg/L, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 9 mmol/L, SA 15 mg/L and MnSO<sub>4</sub> 3 mmol/L in the PDB medium; compared with CK in the same condition increased 75.56%, 47.18%, 38.35%, 53.95% respectively; reached 0.0934 mg/L, 0.0783 mmol/L, 0.0736 mmol/L, 0.0819 mg/L; through the orthogonal experiment, the combinations 2.0 mg/L CaSO<sub>4</sub>, 12 mmol/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 5 mg/L SA and 7 mmol/L MnSO<sub>4</sub> were significantly different from other combinations; the yield reached 0.1847 mg/L and increased by 247.18%, indicating that adding inducer was an effective way to promote the accumulation of essential oil of endophytic fungi. This provides a reference for the artificial regulation of the secondary metabolites of *C. longepaniculatum* and the enhancement of subsequent microorganisms.

## Subject Areas

Biochemistry, Biotechnology

## Keywords

*C. longepaniculatum*, Endophytic Fungus, Single Factor, Orthogonal Test

## 1. Introduction

Plant endophytic fungi refers to a type of fungus that grows in the interstitial or

internal parts of plant tissues during a specific period of life or its life stage, and does not cause significant pathological symptoms in the host plant or does not cause significant damage to the host plant [1]. Studies have found that endophytic fungi can participate in the synthesis and accumulation of plant secondary metabolites, and have similar metabolic pathways to the host, eventually forming the same or similar metabolites [2].

Studies have found that endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* can promote the synthesis and accumulation of essential oil [3]; can enhance the activity of protective enzymes in free radical scavenging system [3]; can significantly regulate the genes in the synthesis pathway of monoterpenoids in *C. longepaniculatum*, so that it is up-regulated [4]; can participate in the signal transduction of plant hormones, and promote the up-regulation of key enzyme gene expression levels in the synthesis of monoterpenoids in *C. longepaniculatum* [4]; at present, the influence of endophytic fungi on *C. longepaniculatum* and its mechanism of action are not enough, so it restricts the understanding of endophytic fungi affecting the quality of *C. longepaniculatum* oil. Nowad, many valuable physiologically active substances such as paclitaxel, camptothecin, gibberellin and vincristine have been isolated and identified from the abundant microbial resources of plant endophytic fungi [5]; it is indicated that increasing the yield of active substances in plants can be carried out by searching for effective secondary metabolites from plant endophytic fungal metabolites.

Inducers can be divided into two categories: abiotic inducers and biological inducers. The former refers to physical and chemical stresses such as heavy metal salts, high-concentration salts, antibiotics and ethylene [6]. Studies have found that inducers are substances that alter the strength or pathway of biosynthesis, and the addition of inducers increases the yield of the desired material. Inducers can alter the pathways of secondary metabolite synthesis and the activity of key rate-limiting enzymes in synthetic pathways, allowing metabolism to be synthesized along more efficient pathways [7].

Endophytic bacteria is isolated directly from plants; the content of secondary metabolites is generally low, and industrial batch production is difficult [8] [9], so it is particularly important to improve secondary metabolites in endophytic bacteria in plants. There are many ways to improve secondary metabolites in endophytes in plants, and the use of inducers to affect the accumulation of metabolites is an effective and easy-to-operate method [10].

The endophytic fungi of the *C. longepaniculatum* used in this study have been found to produce substances such as 1,8-eucalyptus [11] [12], but their yield is low and needs to be optimized [13], and with countries People's living standards and economic conditions are rising, and people's demand for natural flavor oil is increasing [14]. The contradiction between supply and demand is prominent. Therefore, this study aims to promote the accumulation of natural products such as 1,8-eucalyptus oil in endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*, and to study the effects of different inducers and their combinations on the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*, based on the previous

work, single factor and orthogonal experiments were used to optimize the induction conditions of the strains, and the inducers and their combinations which had significant effects on the accumulation of essential oil in the endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* were obtained, in order to improve the yield of *C. longepaniculatum* oil, and means to provide a reference basis.

## 2. Method and Material

### 2.1. Experimental Materials, Main Drugs and Main Equipment

#### 2.1.1 Experimental Materials

One strain of endophytic fungus (*Penicillium commune*) was isolated from *C. longepaniculatum* plants. The project team members collected samples with good growth in the preliminary work. After washing, sampling, surface sterilization, plating, and greenhouse culture, the strains were picked out, separated and purified, and then identified by morphology (Specifically, the colony is fluffy as a whole, with a diameter of 1 - 2 cm, which grows radially to the periphery, the center of the front is green, and the outward gradient is yellowish and white, and the back is milky white [8]), and frozen and preserved by potato dextrose agar medium (PDA).

#### 2.1.2. Main Drugs and Medium

Inducers:  $\text{CuSO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4$ ,  $\text{FeSO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{SO}_4$ , SA (salicylic acid), Trp (tryptophan), sodium benzoate.

Drugs needed to extract essential oil: cyclohexane.

Potato dextrose agar medium (PDA): weigh 200 g of fresh potatoes, weigh 20 g of glucose, weigh 17 - 20 g of agar, and the potatoes are boiled for 30 min, and the filtrate is added to a volume of glucose to 1000 mL (17 - 20 g) of agar was added to the solid medium, and the liquid medium was not added, and the pH was natural. Streptomycin in an amount of 0.1 g/L was added to the medium mainly to inhibit the growth of bacteria.

#### 2.1.3. Main Instruments

High-pressure steam sterilization pot (MLS-3780, Japan Matsushita Health Medical Devices Co., Ltd.), high-speed refrigerated centrifuge (Sorvall LYNX6000, Thermos), dual-beam UV-visible spectrophotometer (TU-901, Beijing Pu Analysis General Instrument Co, Ltd.), GC-MS (7890A-5975c, Agilent), constant temperature incubator (LYZ-2102, constant temperature shaker), ultra clean bench (SW-CJ-2FD, Suzhou Purification Equipment Co., Ltd.).

## 2.2. Test Design

The PDB medium with natural pH was used as the basic medium, and the single factor test of different levels of the same inorganic inducer (Table 1) and the single factor test of different levels of the same organic inducer (Table 2) and Orthogonal test between different inducers (Table 3), the medium was dispensed into a 150 mL Erlenmeyer flask, and each treatment was repeated for 3

**Table 1.** Single factor test of inorganic inducer.

Inorganic inducer	different density			
CuSO <sub>4</sub> (mmol/L)	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04
FeSO <sub>4</sub> (mmol/L)	0.02	0.035	0.05	0.075
Li <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (mg/l)	0.5	1	1.5	2
MnSO <sub>4</sub> (mmol/L)	1	3	5	7
CaSO <sub>4</sub> (mg/l)	0.05	0.1	0.15	0.2
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (mmol/L)	3	6	9	12

**Table 2.** Organic inducible single factor test.

Inducer	different density			
Tryptophan (g/L)	0.14	0.144	0.148	0.152
SA (mg/l)	5	15	25	35
Sodium benzoate (mg/L)	5	10	15	20

bottles, and sterilized at 115°C for 20 min in an autoclave with an inoculation tool. After cooling, the endophytic fungal strain of the *C. longepaniculatum* is aseptically operated, and is inserted into the PDB through the inoculation needle in the PDA of the growth, the oil was cultured for 28 d in 25°C, and its essential oil production was measured every 7 d during its cultivation.

## 2.3. Methods

### 2.3.1. Activation of Endophytic Fungal Strains

The medium was prepared according to the PDA formulation, and the plate, the medium, the inoculation needle, and the like were placed in a sterilizing pot and sterilized at 115°C for 20 min. After the sterilization is completed, the ultra-clean workbench is placed, and the plate is inverted; the strain stored in the test tube is inoculated into the medium by the in-situ needle, and then wrapped with plastic wrap, and cultured at 28°C for seven d.

### 2.3.2. Inducer Single Factor Test

The natural pH PDB medium was prepared, and the inorganic inducers were added with equal amounts of inducers after each component, as shown in **Table 1**, sterilize with an inoculation needle in an autoclave at 115°C for 20 min; the organic inducer is sterilized at 115°C for 20 min in a high-pressure steam sterilizer, after cooling, an equal amount of each organic concentration inducer was removed by filtration under a sterile condition using a 0.22 µm water filter, as shown in **Table 2**. The activated endophytic fungal strains were then inoculated into liquid PDA medium, and cultured at 28°C, 120 r/min for 28 d in suspension; each concentration was repeated 3 times, and 3 controls were set at the same time.

### 2.3.3. Orthogonal Test of Different Inducers

According to the results of single factor test, after significant test analysis, the

inducers with significant differences were selected for orthogonal test, the  $L_{16}$  ( $4^5$ ) orthogonal test (Table 3) was carried out with the essential oil production as an indicator, and each set of experiments was repeated 3 times.

#### 2.3.4. Extraction and Determination of Essential Oil from Endophytic Fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*

The endophytic fungus of the *C. longepaniculatum* was removed from the culture flask under sterile conditions every 7 d and dried at 55°C. Accurately weigh 0.2000 - 0.6000 g of endophytic fungus, add 4 times (1:4) of cyclohexane overnight cold soak, then ultrasonic extraction for 30 min, centrifugation at 5000 r/min at 25°C for 4 min, then take the supernatant, the volume was adjusted to 5 mL with cyclohexane. The liquid was extracted with a syringe, and the filter was filtered into a sample bottle to determine the content of the essential oil, which was analyzed by GC-MS. Chromatographic conditions: column temperature 60°C; HP-5MS column, 30 m × 0.250 mm; injection volume 1 µL; temperature programming: starting from 60°C, rising to 190°C at a heating rate of 10°C/min and maintaining 2 min, then, it is raised to 210°C for 2 min at a heating rate of 5°C/min, and then raised to 220°C for 8 min at a heating rate of 10°C/min. After injection into GC-MS, the standard curve is obtained, that is, the essential oil content is obtained. The response value was used to calculate the essential oil content (1,8-eucalyptol:  $Y = 73,900X - 299,200$ ,  $R^2 = 0.9993$ ).

#### 2.3.5. Significance Test of Experimental Data

The experimental data was input into the DPS and SPSS data processing system tables, and the single factor test statistical analysis was performed in the completely random design of the test statistics tab, and the experimental data was tested for significance; and the experimental result line chart was prepared in an Excel spreadsheet.

### 3. Results and Analysis

#### 3.1. Effect of Single Factor of Inorganic Inducer on the Yield of Essential Oil from Endophytic Fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*

The natural pH PDB medium was prepared, and the same amount of inorganic inducer was added after the separation, and the activated endophytic strain was inoculated into the liquid PDA medium after sterilization, the essential oil production was measured on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> day of 2J1 culture, and the effect of single factor of each inorganic inducer on the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi was studied, the results are shown in Table 3, and the results shown in the table are the average of 3 trials.

Table 3 shows that the endophytic fungi of the *C. longepaniculatum* treated with each inorganic inducer showed an upward trend in the yield of the oil in the range of 21 d, reaching a maximum at 21 d, when the culture time was greater than 21 d, the essential oil content in endophytic fungi gradually decreases; with the increase of the concentration of inorganic inducer, the yield of

**Table 3.** Effects of different inorganic inducer on the accumulation of essential oil of endophytic fungi, 2J1.

Time (d)	1,8-eucalyptus (mg/L)			
	7 d	14 d	21 d	28 d
CuSO <sub>4</sub> (0.010 mmol/L)	0.0373	0.0432	0.0544	0.0437
CuSO <sub>4</sub> (0.020)	0.0395	0.0498	0.0578	0.0452
CuSO <sub>4</sub> (0.030)	0.0417	0.0563	0.0617*	0.0585
CuSO <sub>4</sub> (0.040)	0.0389	0.0422	0.0510	0.0449
FeSO <sub>4</sub> (0.020 mmol/L)	0.0389	0.0502	0.0651	0.0530
FeSO <sub>4</sub> (0.035)	0.0402	0.0534	0.0673	0.0592
FeSO <sub>4</sub> (0.050)	0.0463	0.0573	0.0691*	0.0619
FeSO <sub>4</sub> (0.075)	0.0404	0.0526	0.0664	0.0541
Li <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (0.5 mg/l)	0.0488	0.0519	0.0604	0.0539
Li <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (1.0)	0.0516	0.0549	0.0662	0.0546
Li <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (1.5)	0.0556	0.0574	0.0697*	0.0569
Li <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	0.0434	0.0559	0.0675	0.0551
MnSO <sub>4</sub> (1 mmol/L)	0.0528	0.0603	0.0735	0.0701
MnSO <sub>4</sub> (3)	0.0624	0.0693	0.0819**	0.0793
MnSO <sub>4</sub> (5)	0.0563	0.0671	0.0787	0.0721
MnSO <sub>4</sub> (7)	0.0533	0.0629	0.0742	0.0606
CaSO <sub>4</sub> (0.5 mg/l)	0.0678	0.0708	0.0775	0.0719
CaSO <sub>4</sub> (1.0)	0.0711	0.0742	0.0808	0.0723
CaSO <sub>4</sub> (1.5)	0.0760	0.0817	0.0934**	0.0814
CaSO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)	0.0707	0.0766	0.0816	0.0714
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (3 mmol/L)	0.0597	0.0634	0.0724	0.0632
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (6)	0.0612	0.0663	0.0738	0.0693
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (9)	0.0646	0.0693	0.0783**	0.0747
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (12)	0.0572	0.0629	0.0718	0.0615
Control	0.0368	0.0489	0.0532	0.0421

Note: \*There is a significant difference between each column of inorganic inducers ( $P < 0.05$ ); \*\* $P < 0.01$ .

essential oil increased first and then decreased, and the yield increased compared with the group without added inducer (CK); the effects of essential oil accumulation on endophytic fungi treated with inorganic inducers were basically consistent with the trend. Among them, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day, the induced concentrations of CuSO<sub>4</sub>, FeSO<sub>4</sub>, Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, MnSO<sub>4</sub>, CaSO<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> were 0.03 mmol/L, 0.05 mmol/L, 1.5 mg/L, 3 mmol/L, 1.5 mg/L, 9 mmol/L, respectively, the essential oil production is the largest under the treatment of this inorganic inducer, they were 0.0617 mg/L, 0.0691 mg/L, 0.0697 mg/L, 0.0819 mg/L, 0.0934 mg/L, and 0.0783 mmol/L, respectively. The yield increased by 15.98%, 29.89%, 31.02%,

and 53.95%, 75.56%, 47.18%, respectively. According to the significance test, the induced concentrations of  $\text{CuSO}_4$ ,  $\text{FeSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaSO}_4$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  were 0.03 mmol/L, 0.05 mmol/L, 1.5 mg/L, 3 mmol/L and 1.5 mg/L, respectively. At 9 mmol/L, there was a significant difference in the yield of 1,8-eucalyptus oil and other concentrations under the inducer at this time ( $P < 0.05$ ). According to the DPS significance test, the significant difference of  $\text{CaSO}_4$  was the most significant compared with other inorganic inducers on the 21<sup>st</sup> day.

### 3.2. Effect of Organic Inducer Single Factor on the Yield of Essential Oil from Endophytic Fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*

Prepare PDB medium of natural pH, add the same amount of organic inducer after sterilization and cooling, and inoculate the activated endophytic strain into liquid PDA medium, the yield of essential oil was measured on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> day of 2J1 culture, and the effect of single factor of organic inducer on the yield of essential oil from endophytic fungus was studied. The results are shown in Table 4; the result is the average of 3 trials.

Table 4 shows that the endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* treated with organic inducers showed an increase in the yield of essential oil in the range of 21 d, reaching a maximum at 21 d, when the culture time was greater than 21 d when the content of essential oil in endophytic fungi gradually decreases; with the increase of organic inducer concentration, the yield of essential oil increased first and then decreased, and the yield increased compared with the group without added inducer (CK); the effects of essential oil accumulation on the endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* under the treatment of organic inducers

**Table 4.** Effects of different organic inducer on the accumulation of essential oil in 2J1.

Time (d)	1,8-eucalin (mg/L)			
	7 d	14 d	21 d	28 d
Tryptophan (0.140 g/L)	0.0464	0.0505	0.0578	0.0551
Tryptophan (0.144)	0.0475	0.0529	0.0596	0.0576
Tryptophan (0.148)	0.0499	0.0567	0.0627*	0.0602
Tryptophan (0.152)	0.0489	0.0537	0.0607	0.0575
SA (5 mg/l)	0.0524	0.0616	0.0701	0.0682
SA (15)	0.0534	0.0674	0.0736**	0.0701
SA (25)	0.0517	0.0623	0.0685	0.0634
SA (35)	0.0503	0.0607	0.0653	0.0622
Sodium benzoate (5 mg/L)	0.0485	0.0572	0.0678	0.0632
Sodium benzoate (10)	0.0509	0.0604	0.0704*	0.0665
Sodium benzoate (15)	0.0502	0.0586	0.0659	0.0622
Sodium benzoate (20)	0.0478	0.0562	0.0632	0.0602
Control	0.0368	0.0489	0.0532	0.0421

Note: \*There is a significant difference in organic inducers ( $P < 0.05$ ); \*\* $P < 0.01$ .

were basically consistent with the trend. Among them, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day, when the concentrations of tryptophan, SA and sodium benzoate were 0.148 g/L, 15 mg/L and 10 mg/L, respectively, the essential oil yield was the largest under the treatment of organic inducers, the yields were 0.0627 mg/L, 0.0736 mmol/L, and 0.0704 mmol/L, respectively, and the yield increased by 17.86%, 38.35%, and 32.33%, respectively; after significant test analysis, at 21 d, the tryptophan, SA, and sodium benzoate induced concentrations of 0.148 g/L, 15 mg/l, 10 mg/l, 1,8-eucalyptus oil production and this time there was a significant difference in the treatment of other concentrations under the inducer ( $P < 0.05$ ). The results indicated that there was a positive correlation between the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi and the concentration of organic inducers.

### 3.3. Different Inducer Orthogonal Test

Orthogonal test selected  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4$ , SA, four kinds of substances with significant differences compared with other substances under the single factor of the inducer, and the  $L_{16}(4^5)$  orthogonal test was carried out with the essential oil yield as the index (Table 5). The results of the variance analysis of the essential oil production in the inducer induction test are shown in Table 6. The variance analysis of essential oil yields in different orthogonal experiments showed that the inducer for the significant difference in essential oil production was  $\text{CaSO}_4$ , and the other three inducers did not reach significant levels for essential oil production. Through the orthogonal test Table 5, the magnitude of the R value of the four factors, the impact on the essential oil production is:  $\text{CaSO}_4 > \text{MnSO}_4 > \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 > \text{SA}$ .

After comparing and comprehensively analyzing the K value of each factor in the orthogonal test table of different inducers and the comprehensive analysis of the essential oil production of each group, the optimal combination of 4 groups was selected, that is, the  $A_4B_4C_1D_4$ ,  $A_4B_4C_4D_4$ ,  $A_4B_4C_1D_1$ ,  $A_4B_4C_4D_1$  groups were selected for verification test. The results showed that when  $\text{CaSO}_4$  2.0 mg/L,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  12 mmol/L, SA 5 mg/L,  $\text{MnSO}_4$  7 mmol/L were added to PDB, the yield was the highest, which was 0.1847 mg/L, which was 247.18% higher than that without inducer (Table 6).

## 4. Conclusions and Discussion

Studies have found that the addition of inducers can alter the pathway of secondary metabolite synthesis; it can also promote or inhibit the activity of key rate-limiting enzymes in the bio-metabolite synthesis pathway; it also inhibits enzyme activity in unrelated bypass metabolic pathways [7]. Inducers alter the biosynthetic pathway or intensity, allowing the reactants to synthesize as much as possible the desired metabolites and increase their yield [4] [7]. Qi Li [7] found that the addition of prodrugs and elicitors to the fermentation broth of paclitaxel endophytic fungus TMS-26 can effectively increase the yield of paclitaxel; this experiment showed that the effects of different inducers on the yield of

**Table 5.** Orthogonal test of different inducers.

Test number	Factor Factor				IS	1,8-eucalyptus mg/l
	A	B	C	D		
1	1 (0.5)	1 (3)	1 (5)	1 (1)		0.0973
2	2 (1)	2 (6)	1	2 (3)		0.1091
3	3 (1.5)	3 (9)	1	3 (5)		0.1305
4	4 (2)	4 (12)	1	4 (7)		0.1808
5	2	4	3 (25)	1		0.1296
6	4	3	2 (15)	1		0.1669
7	3	2	4 (35)	1		0.1285
8	1	4	4	3		0.1054
9	4	1	4	2		0.1555
10	1	3	3	2		0.0921
11	2	3	4	4		0.1175
12	2	1	2	3		0.0903
13	3	1	3	4		0.1062
14	3	4	2	2		0.1404
15	4	2	3	3		0.1606
16	1	2	2	4		0.0865
k1	0.3804	0.4493	0.5177	0.5223		
k2	0.4465	0.4847	0.4841	0.4971		
k3	0.5056	0.5070	0.4885	0.4868		
k4	0.6638	0.5562	0.5069	0.6638		
k1	0.0951	0.1123	0.1294	0.1306		
k2	0.1116	0.1212	0.1210	0.1243		
k3	0.1264	0.1268	0.1221	0.1217		
k4	0.1660	0.1391	0.1267	0.1660		
R	0.0709	0.0267	0.0084	0.0443		

Note: A: CaSO<sub>4</sub> (mg/L); B: H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (mmol/L); C: SA (mg/l); D: MnSO<sub>4</sub> (mmol/L).

**Table 6.** Analysis of variance of essential oil accumulation in orthogonal experiment of different inducers.

Variance source SV	Square sum SS	Degree of freedom df	Mean square MS	F	P
A	0.0975	3	0.0325	1.427	*
B	0.0671	3	0.0224	0.982	
C	0.0633	3	0.0211	0.926	
D	0.0613	3	0.0204	0.897	
Error	0.0911	4	0.0228		
Total variation	0.3803	16			

Note: \*P < 0.01.

essential oil from endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* were different, indicating that different inducers could affect the accumulation of essential oil of endophytic fungi to different extents.

In the single factor experiment, the endophytic fungi were treated with inorganic inducers  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{MnSO}_4$ , and the essential oil yield was significantly different from other inducers ( $P < 0.05$ ), and  $\text{CaSO}_4$  is more significant than the other two; the yield is larger, reaching 0.0934 mg/l, which is 75.56% higher than CK; this is related to the fact that calcium ions are activators of certain enzymes, which activate certain secondary metabolic pathways to increase metabolite production, and also have an effect on the permeability of calcium ions to cells and the phosphate content in the medium [15];  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  acts as a signaling molecule at low doses to regulate gene expression and signaling and thereby regulate secondary metabolic pathways [16]; the yield of essential oil from  $\text{CuSO}_4$ ,  $\text{FeSO}_4$  and  $\text{Li}_2\text{SO}_4$  was higher than that of CK, but the difference was not significant, which promoted the accumulation of essential oil, but it was not significant; the specific reasons need further study. In summary, the promoting effect of inorganic inducers on the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* is:  $\text{CaSO}_4 > \text{MnSO}_4 > \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .

Treatment of endophytic fungi with organic inducer SA can significantly promote the yield of essential oil from endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*, reaching 0.0736 mmol/L, which is 38.35% higher than CK. It was found that SA participates in the signal transduction process as a signal molecule, activates and inhibits the corresponding transcription factors, affects the expression of genes and regulates the synthesis of secondary metabolites [17] [18]. In summary, the organic inducer promoted the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum*: SA > sodium benzoate > tryptophan. Therefore, based on the difference in the accumulation of essential oil, the dominant inducer can be found, thereby optimizing the way to induce the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi.

In the orthogonal experiment, the yield of essential oil from endophytic fungi was significantly different between  $\text{CaSO}_4$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4$  and SA. The three inducers did not reach a significant level for the production of essential oil; the effect of promoting the essential oil production in the orthogonal test was:  $\text{CaSO}_4 > \text{MnSO}_4 > \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 > \text{SA}$ . The orthogonal test showed that when  $\text{CaSO}_4$  2.0 mg/L,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  12 mmol/L, SA 5 mg/L,  $\text{MnSO}_4$  7 mmol/L were added to PDB, the maximum yield of essential oil was 0.1847 mg/L, which was less than that of CK without inducer; the output increased by 247.18%; this indicates that the orthogonal combination of different inducers has the best induction effect on the yield of endophytic fungi essential oil; this suggests that the inducers in several different pathways added simultaneously have synergistic effects [7].

In this experiment, the effects of nine inducers and their partial combinations on the accumulation of essential oil in endophytic fungi of *C. longepaniculatum* were studied, which promoted the accumulation of essential oil to a certain ex-

tent, but it could not be applied to large-scale production. For example, there is no secondary metabolic pathway for the endophytic fungus 2J1 essential oil. In the future, in the process of strain culture, we can also optimize the culture conditions for its growth stage and metabolite synthesis stage; therefore, it lays a foundation for the artificial regulation and optimization of endophytic fungi and the induction of microbial secondary metabolite accumulation.

## Acknowledgements

The first author acknowledges that this work was supported by Scientific Research Project of Yibin University (Grant No. 2015PY01).

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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