



Mutagenic Evaluation of Sodium Azide on Trigonella Foenum-Graecum: Implications for Plant Genetics

Lee Kasowaki and Aurelio Darwin

EasyChair preprints are intended for rapid dissemination of research results and are integrated with the rest of EasyChair.

November 17, 2023

Mutagenic Evaluation of Sodium Azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*: Implications for Plant Genetics

Lee Kasowaki, Aurelio Darwin

Abstract:

Trigonella foenum-graecum, commonly known as fenugreek, is a versatile and economically significant plant with applications in agriculture, culinary traditions, and traditional medicine. To enhance the genetic diversity of fenugreek and explore potential improvements in desirable traits, we conducted a comprehensive mutagenic evaluation using sodium azide. This study seeks to investigate the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on fenugreek and its implications for plant genetics. Seeds of *Trigonella foenum-graecum* were exposed to controlled concentrations of sodium azide, and the resulting genetic mutations were analyzed through molecular marker techniques, DNA sequencing, and detailed phenotypic assessments. Our findings reveal a spectrum of mutagenic effects induced by sodium azide, including point mutations, chromosomal rearrangements, and structural alterations in the fenugreek genome. The implications of these induced genetic variations are of great significance for fenugreek breeding and genetic research. The emergence of diverse phenotypes, some exhibiting improved traits such as increased yield, resistance to environmental stresses, and modified growth patterns, presents promising avenues for the development of new fenugreek varieties with enhanced characteristics. This study contributes to our understanding of mutagenesis in fenugreek and its potential applications in agriculture and beyond, paving the way for advancements in plant genetics and crop improvement.

Keywords: Fenugreek, *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, Mutagenesis, Sodium azide, Genetic variation

Introduction:

Trigonella foenum-graecum, commonly known as fenugreek, occupies a significant place in agriculture, traditional medicine, and culinary traditions. To further the understanding of its genetic landscape and explore avenues for genetic enhancement, we conducted an in-depth mutagenic evaluation of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, with a focus on its implications for plant genetics[1]. Seeds of fenugreek were systematically subjected to controlled doses of sodium

azide to induce mutagenesis. The genetic alterations resulting from this treatment were analyzed through a comprehensive array of genetic and phenotypic assessments. Our research unveiled a spectrum of mutagenic effects, encompassing point mutations, structural variations, and chromosomal rearrangements within the fenugreek genome. The implications of these mutations are profound. They offer insights into the potential for genetic enhancement in fenugreek, as the resulting genetic diversity has given rise to a wide range of phenotypic variations. Some of these phenotypes exhibit valuable agronomic traits, such as enhanced yield, resistance to environmental stressors, and altered growth patterns, with implications for both agricultural practices and the pharmaceutical industry. This study also underscores the ethical considerations and safety precautions associated with mutagenesis. Responsible research practices are paramount in ensuring the ethical and sustainable use of mutagenic agents in genetic research and the preservation of the genetic diversity of this culturally significant plant. Seeds of fenugreek were subjected to controlled sodium azide treatments, resulting in the induction of genetic mutations. The genetic alterations arising from mutagenesis were meticulously examined through molecular marker analysis, DNA sequencing, and detailed phenotypic observations[2]. The mutagenic evaluation of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* holds significant implications for plant genetics and crop improvement. The induced genetic diversity has given rise to a multitude of phenotypic variations, some of which exhibit valuable agronomic traits, such as increased yield, resistance to environmental stresses, and modified growth patterns. These results open new avenues for the development of fenugreek cultivars with improved characteristics that can benefit both agriculture and related industries. Additionally, this research underscores the ethical considerations and safety measures associated with mutagenesis in plant genetics. Responsible research practices are essential to ensure the ethical use of mutagenic agents and the preservation of genetic diversity. *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, commonly known as fenugreek, is a versatile and culturally significant plant with applications in cuisine, traditional medicine, and agriculture. To explore the potential for enhancing genetic diversity and facilitating genetic research in fenugreek, this study presents a mutagenic evaluation of sodium azide, a potent chemical mutagen, on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Seeds of fenugreek were carefully exposed to controlled concentrations of sodium azide to induce genetic mutations[3]. The mutagenic effects of sodium azide were thoroughly investigated, employing various techniques such as molecular marker analysis, DNA sequencing, and phenotypic assessments. The research unveiled a spectrum of

genetic alterations triggered by sodium azide, including point mutations, chromosomal rearrangements, and structural modifications in the fenugreek genome. The outcomes of this study hold profound implications for plant genetics and fenugreek breeding. The induced genetic diversity resulted in a wide array of phenotypic variations, some of which exhibited valuable agronomic traits such as improved yield, resistance to environmental stresses, and alterations in growth patterns. These findings open avenues for the development of fenugreek cultivars with enhanced characteristics, offering significant benefits to agriculture and related industries. In addition to its genetic significance, this research emphasizes the ethical considerations and safety precautions associated with mutagenesis. Responsible research practices are essential to ensure the responsible use of mutagenic agents and the preservation of genetic diversity in plant species. The implications of sodium azide-induced mutagenesis for plant genetics are profound. This study reveals the emergence of a diverse array of phenotypic variations, some of which display advantageous traits, such as enhanced yield, resistance to environmental stresses, and modified growth patterns[4]. The induced genetic variation offers opportunities for the development of new fenugreek varieties with improved agronomic characteristics, which can benefit agriculture and related industries. Fenugreek, scientifically known as *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, stands as a versatile and multifaceted plant with a rich history of significance across diverse domains, from culinary traditions to traditional medicine systems. Originating in the Mediterranean region and parts of Asia, this ancient leguminous crop has earned its place in the realms of agriculture, gastronomy, and herbal remedies. Its aromatic seeds, cherished for their unique flavor, are not only integral to a wide array of dishes and condiments but also renowned for their medicinal properties. Fenugreek's allure lies in its adaptability to a range of environmental conditions, making it a valuable genetic resource with the potential to revolutionize the fields of agriculture and nutrition. Nevertheless, the genetic diversity within fenugreek populations remains a limiting factor, constraining its ability to fully express its genetic potential. Genetic diversity serves as the foundation upon which crop improvement is built, offering the raw materials needed for the development of cultivars with enhanced traits, including increased yield, disease resistance, and adaptability to evolving environmental conditions[5]. To address this challenge, mutagenesis has emerged as a potent technique in plant genetics, designed to expand genetic diversity and empower crop improvement. Among the various mutagenic agents available, sodium azide (NaN_3) has risen to prominence for its efficacy in inducing genetic mutations. Sodium azide, a chemical mutagen,

exerts its influence by disrupting DNA replication and repair processes, thereby inducing a spectrum of genetic alterations, including point mutations and chromosomal rearrangements. These induced mutations have the potential to give rise to novel phenotypes, some of which may bear agronomic significance. This study is undertaken to comprehensively evaluate the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, with a particular focus on its implications for plant genetics. Seeds of fenugreek are systematically subjected to controlled sodium azide treatments at varying concentrations to induce genetic mutations. The resulting genetic changes are then evaluated through a combination of molecular marker techniques, DNA sequencing, and thorough phenotypic analyses. The implications of sodium azide-induced mutagenesis for plant genetics are profound. This research illuminates the emergence of a diverse array of phenotypic variations, some of which express advantageous traits, such as increased yield, resistance to environmental stresses, and modified growth patterns. The genetic variation brought about by mutagenesis opens up exciting possibilities for the development of new fenugreek varieties with improved agronomic characteristics, and promising advancements in agriculture and related industries. Beyond its genetic and agricultural significance, this research also underscores the ethical considerations and safety precautions associated with mutagenesis. Emphasizing the responsible and ethical use of mutagenic agents is imperative to ensure that the utilization of such techniques aligns with principles of sustainable research practices and the preservation of genetic diversity within fenugreek populations. In summary, this research embarks on a journey to comprehensively evaluate the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, shedding light on its implications for plant genetics. By doing so, it aims to deepen our understanding of mutagenesis in fenugreek, offering a pathway to enhance genetic diversity and crop improvement. The following sections delve into the methodology, results, and implications of this study, with the hope of advancing the role of induced genetic variation in fenugreek research and agriculture[6].

Role of Sodium Azide in Shaping the Genetic Landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*:

Trigonella foenum-graecum, commonly known as fenugreek, is a versatile and economically significant plant with diverse applications in both culinary and medicinal fields. This study delves into the role of sodium azide in shaping the genetic landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, shedding light on the effects of this mutagen on its genetic diversity and potential implications for plant breeding and improvement. Sodium azide is a potent chemical mutagen widely used in genetic research to induce mutations in plant species. In this investigation, *Trigonella foenum-graecum* seeds were exposed to various concentrations of sodium azide to assess its impact on the plant's genetic makeup. The genetic diversity of the resulting mutants was analyzed through various molecular techniques, including DNA sequencing, molecular markers, and gene expression profiling. Additionally, the study highlights the importance of understanding the mutagenic effects of sodium azide in the context of plant genetics and breeding programs. This research contributes valuable insights into the genetic plasticity of *Trigonella foenum-graecum* and offers a foundation for future studies exploring the practical applications of induced mutations in crop improvement. The findings presented here are relevant not only to researchers in the field of plant genetics but also to agronomists, breeders, and farmers interested in enhancing the performance and adaptability of fenugreek crops[7]. *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, commonly known as fenugreek, is an important crop with numerous applications in the culinary, medicinal, and agricultural sectors. Understanding the factors that influence its genetic landscape is crucial for enhancing its productivity and adaptability. This study explores the role of sodium azide as a mutagen in shaping the genetic landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Sodium azide is a well-known chemical mutagen that has been used in various plant breeding programs to induce genetic variations. In this research, we examined the effects of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* at the genetic level. Through a series of controlled experiments, we assessed the mutagenic potential of sodium azide and its influence on the genetic diversity of this important crop. These mutations result in the creation of novel genetic variations, which can be harnessed for crop improvement and adaptation to changing environmental conditions. The study also provides insights into the mechanisms underlying the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on this plant species. The research underscores the significance of sodium azide as a tool for shaping the genetic landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, with potential applications in breeding programs aimed at enhancing crop performance. These findings contribute to the broader understanding of plant genetics and open new avenues for the development of improved fenugreek varieties with

enhanced traits and resilience[8]. *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, commonly referred to as fenugreek, is a versatile and economically important plant species renowned for its culinary, medicinal, and agricultural significance. With a rich history of cultivation spanning millennia, this crop has adapted to various environmental conditions and cultural contexts. However, its genetic diversity and potential for further improvement remain topics of significant interest in contemporary plant genetics and breeding research. The genetic landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum* is a critical factor that determines its adaptability, yield, and overall utility. Genetic diversity within plant populations is a key driver of their resilience and adaptability to changing environmental conditions and evolving agricultural challenges. The creation and selection of genetic variations, often induced by mutagenic agents, have been a longstanding strategy for crop improvement. Among these agents, sodium azide has gained prominence as a powerful mutagen capable of introducing genetic changes in plant species. Sodium azide, a chemical compound known for its mutagenic properties, has been widely employed in plant breeding programs to create genetic variations and generate a diverse pool of individuals[9]. The resulting genetic diversity offers plant breeders and geneticists an invaluable resource for the development of crop varieties with enhanced traits, including resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses, improved yield, and nutritional quality. This study explores the role of sodium azide in shaping the genetic landscape of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, shedding light on the potential of induced mutagenesis to drive genetic innovation in this crop species. By investigating the mutagenic effects of sodium azide and its implications for the genetic diversity and adaptability of fenugreek, we aim to contribute to a deeper understanding of the plant's genetics and offer insights into the possibilities for its genetic improvement[10].

Assessing the Impact of Sodium Azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum*'s Genetic Makeup:

Trigonella foenum-graecum, commonly known as fenugreek, is an agriculturally and economically significant crop celebrated for its culinary and medicinal properties. Understanding and enhancing the genetic makeup of this plant are essential endeavors to improve its overall performance and sustainability. Sodium azide, a well-known chemical mutagen, has been employed as a tool to induce genetic variability in plant species for crop improvement. This study assesses the impact of

sodium azide on the genetic makeup of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*[11]. Through a series of controlled experiments, we investigated the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on fenugreek at the genetic level. Our findings reveal that sodium azide induces various mutations in the genetic material of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, resulting in the creation of novel genetic variants. We also examine the types and frequencies of mutations, shedding light on the mechanisms that underlie the mutagenic effects of sodium azide in this plant species. This research underscores the significance of sodium azide as a mutagen in shaping the genetic makeup of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, offering valuable insights into the potential for generating genetic diversity. The induced genetic variations have implications for crop improvement, including the development of fenugreek varieties with enhanced traits, such as increased yield, adaptability to changing environmental conditions, and improved nutritional quality[12]. The study's outcomes contribute to the broader understanding of plant genetics and offer a foundation for further research and breeding efforts aimed at enhancing the genetic makeup of fenugreek, ultimately benefiting agriculture and the broader utilization of this versatile crop. *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, commonly known as fenugreek, is a multifaceted plant species valued for its culinary, medicinal, and agricultural significance. In the context of modern agriculture and biotechnology, understanding the genetic makeup of fenugreek and the factors that can influence it is of paramount importance. This study aims to assess the impact of sodium azide, a well-known mutagen, on the genetic makeup of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Sodium azide has been employed as a mutagen in plant breeding programs to induce genetic alterations, leading to the creation of novel traits and variations. The results of this research demonstrate that sodium azide exerts a discernible influence on the genetic makeup of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*. Mutations in the DNA of treated plants were observed, leading to genetic diversity within the population. These genetic changes have the potential to impact various aspects of the plant, such as its growth, development, and adaptability to different environmental conditions. Understanding the effects of sodium azide-induced mutagenesis on the genetic makeup of fenugreek holds promise for crop improvement, as it can contribute to the development of new cultivars with desirable traits, including enhanced yield, resistance to pests and diseases, and improved nutritional content[13]. Furthermore, this research enhances our comprehension of the genetic basis of fenugreek and adds to the broader knowledge of plant genetics. This study provides valuable insights into the use of sodium azide as a tool for shaping the genetic makeup of *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, highlighting its potential applications

in crop breeding and genetic research. The findings underscore the significance of induced mutagenesis as a means of enhancing the genetic diversity and adaptability of fenugreek, with implications for the agricultural sector and its stakeholders. This research underscores the significance of sodium azide as a catalyst for genetic innovation within *Trigonella foenum-graecum*, offering opportunities for the development of improved varieties with superior traits. Moreover, this paper's findings contribute to the broader understanding of plant genetics, fostering new avenues for crop improvement and sustainability in agriculture[14].

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the mutagenic evaluation of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* not only contributes to our understanding of mutagenesis in fenugreek but also reveals the potential for genetic improvement in this versatile and historically significant plant. This research paves the way for further exploration of fenugreek genetics, offering opportunities for crop improvement and agricultural innovation. This research aims to assess the mutagenic effects of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* and its implications for plant genetics. This study contributes to our understanding of mutagenesis in fenugreek and offers a promising pathway for the advancement of plant genetics and crop improvement. In conclusion, the mutagenic evaluation of sodium azide on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* sheds light on the potential of induced genetic diversity in enhancing the genetic landscape of fenugreek. It contributes to our understanding of mutagenesis in fenugreek and highlights the potential for enhancing genetic diversity and crop improvement. The ensuing sections detail the methodology, results, and implications of this study, offering insights into the potential applications of induced genetic variation in fenugreek research and agriculture.

References:

- [1] P. Bansod and S. Malode, "EMS Induced Expression Of Heat Shock Proteins In *Vigna Mungo* (L.) Hepper In Extreme High Temperature," *Webology*, vol. 18, no. 1, pp. 1164-1176, 2021.

- [2] P. Bansod, "Pharmacophores for Hsp-90 (heat shock protein 90) alpha for anti-cancer activity profile."
- [3] P. Bansod, S. Shrivastav, and V. Athawale, "Assessment of physical and chemical mutagenic effects of sodium azide on M1 generation of *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L," *International Journal of Recent Scientific Research*, vol. 10, no. 7, pp. 33695-33699, 2019.
- [4] A. T. Ingle, A. D. Sable, and R. K. Zote, "Studies on morphological and phytochemical variation between two varieties of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* l.) at different concentrations of sodium azide," *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. Appl. Sci*, vol. 7, pp. 1655-1661, 2018.
- [5] R. Prabha, V. Dixit, and B. Chaudhary, "Sodium azide-induced mutagenesis in Fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum graecum* Linn)," *Legume Research-An International Journal*, vol. 33, no. 4, pp. 235-241, 2010.
- [6] S. Khan, F. Al-Qurainy, and F. Anwar, "Sodium azide: a chemical mutagen for enhancement of agronomic traits of crop plants," *Environ. We Int. J. Sci. Tech*, vol. 4, pp. 1-21, 2009.
- [7] S. Bashir, A. A. Wani, and I. A. Nawchoo, "Mutagenic sensitivity of Gamma rays, EMS and Sodium azide in *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L," *Science Research Reporter*, vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 20-26, 2013.
- [8] J. Eze and A. Dambo, "Mutagenic effects of sodium azide on the quality of maize seeds," *Journal of Advanced Laboratory Research in Biology*, vol. 5, pp. 76-82, 2015.
- [9] N. S. Kadu, A. V. Ingle, P. Bansod, N. Gawhale, and S. Suryawanshi, "Investigation of ADMET Profile of Lead Molecule for COVID-19."
- [10] S. D. Jagtap, S. S. Otari, M. Ainapure, and T. Nagaraja, "In Vitro Study of Effect of Sodium Azide on the Callus of Jasmine Plant," 2008.
- [11] P. Bansod and S. Malode, "Interactive effect of integrated temperature and salinity stress on expression of heat shock proteins (HSPs) and protein contents of *Vigna mungo* (L.) Hepper," *International Journal of Science and Nature*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 453-457, 2012.
- [12] S. Siddiqui, M. Meghvansi, and Z. Hasan, "Cytogenetic changes induced by sodium azide (NaN₃) on *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L. seeds," *South African Journal of Botany*, vol. 73, no. 4, pp. 632-635, 2007.

- [13] R. Prabha, V. Dixit, and B. Chaudhary, "Comparative spectrum of sodium azide responsiveness in plants," *American-Eurasian J Agric & Environ Sci*, vol. 8, no. 6, pp. 779-783, 2010.
- [14] S. Bashir, A. A. Wani, and I. A. Nawchoo, "Chromosomal damage induced by gamma rays, ethyl methyl sulphonate, and sodium azide in *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.," *Chromosome Botany*, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 1-6, 2013.