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PART B: Abstracts of Papers for Poster Sessions



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F 17. EXTRACELLULAR PROTEASES FROM AFROMONAS SPP. AND PSEUDOMONAS SPP. ISOLATED FROM MACKEREL

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Out of bacterial colonies isolated from Mackerel (Rastrelliger kanagurta) one hundred colonies were identified. Aeromonas spp. and Pseudomonas spp. when grown in casamino acid medium, were found to produce appreciable amounts of extracellular proteases. Aeromonas spp. preferred a pH of 7.0 while Pseudomonas produced maximum proteases at pH 5.2. Room temperature (25-30°C) was the most favourable for protease production by both the cultures. Shaken cultures produced 4-5 times more enzymes as compared with stationary cultures. Supplementation of the culture medium with Mg and Zn enhanced protease production by Aeromonas spp. whereas Mn and Zn showed similar effect on Pseudomonas spp. Stationary cultures showed maximum enzyme levels at 72 hr while the shaken cultures attained maximum levels by 24 hr.

Both Aeromonas and Pseudomonas proteases were found to be alkaline proteases with pH optima of 9.4 and 8.6 respectively.

F 18. ALTERATIONS IN THE GROWTH AND MORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF CERTAIN FUNGAL STRAINS IN THE PRESENCE OF POTASSIUM SORBATE

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Fifty fungal strains isolated from a variety of foods in the laboratory were investigated for their tolerance and growth characteristics in the presence of the commonly used food preservative – potassium sorbate. The preservative brought about changes in colony appearance, colour, sporulation, exudates, etc. There was wide variation in the sensitivity amongst the genera. Trichoderma tolerated as high as 1500 ppm whereas Cladosporium was sensitive at 100 ppm level. Even within the same genus tolerance varied widely. 100 ppm level potassium sorbate could not bring about any significant retardation in the growth of Aspergillus flavus and at the same concentration mild retardation on Aspergillus niger group was observed. The preservative, therefore could only be selectively used in foods at lower concentrations.

F 19. EFFECT OF CLARIFICATION OF MOLASSES ON THE ETHANOL YIELD AND TOLERANCE OF SACCHAROMYCES CERIVISIAE (CFTRI 101)

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A strain of Saccharomyces cerevisiae (CFTRI 101) has been found to produce and tolerate ethanol upto 15.5% (W/W) in a synthetic medium as compared to 9.5% in case of molasses medium. The reasons for the lower yield and ethanol tolerance of the yeast were suspected to be due to the higher viscosity and various inhibitory substances that may be present in the molasses. Trials were made to eliminate some of the contaminating substances from molasses by treatments with H₂SO₄, Kieselguhr, Chitosan, Indion 286 VC (a cationic resin), Deacidite (an afficiency resin) and enzymes such as cellulase, hemicellulase and pectinase. None of the treatments were found to be beneficial when compared to the control. Treatment with chitosan at acidic, neutral and alkaline pH and treatments with enzymes and ion-exchange resins rather decreased the alcohol yield. Supplementation of ion-exchange resin-treated molasses with nutrients such as (NH₄)₂ HPO₄, MgSO₄, CaCl₂ and KCl and FeSO₄ also did not show any improvement in the fermentation efficiency and alcohol tolerance.

F 20. SCP AND CELLULASE FROM BAGASSE

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A 10 1 fermenter trial was conducted for the production of cellulase enzyme and single cell protein by growing a cellulolytic mould Aspergillus terreus GN1 on 1.0% alkali-treated sugarcane bagasse substrate. The crude protein content