

PROMOTION OF L-TRYPTOPHAN PRODUCTION BY MUTATION OF CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM

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ABSTRACT

L-TRYPTOPHAN IS NOT ABUNDANT IN THE NATURAL WORLD. IT MAINLY EXISTS IN THE FOOD OF ANIMAL TYPE SUCH AS MEAT, EGG, AND MILK. FOR THE FOOD OF PLANT TYPE, EXCEPT POTATOES, THE CONTENT OF L-TRYPTOPHAN IS VERY SCARCE ESPECIALLY IN GRAINS LIKE RICE AND WHEAT. FOUR METHODS, INCLUDING HYDROLYSIS OF PROTEIN, CHEMICAL SYNTHESIS, ENZYMATIC TRANSFORMATION, AND FERMENTATION, ARE USED TO PRODUCE L-TRYPTOPHAN. AMONG THEM, FERMENTATION IS MOST FREQUENTLY USED BECAUSE IT COULD USE LOW-PRICED CARBON AND NITROGEN SOURCES. THEREFORE, FERMENTATION IS THE METHOD USED IN THIS STUDY TO PRODUCE L-TRYPTOPHAN.

CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM CCRC12511 WAS THE FIRST STRAIN TO BEGIN. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS STRAIN APPEARED TO PRODUCE NO L-TRYPTOPHAN. THEREFORE, MUTATION OF THIS STRAIN WAS THEN CONSIDERED TO IMPROVE THE L-TRYPTOPHAN YIELD. NTG (N-METHYL-N'-NITRO-N-NITROSOGUANIDINE) WAS THEN USED AS THE MUTANT REAGENT TO TREAT THE ORIGINAL STRAIN. THROUGH A SERIES OF SCREENING EXPERIMENTS, SEVERAL POTENTIAL STRAINS WERE SELECTED. UNFORTUNATELY, THE MUTATED STRAINS STILL SHOWED NO EVIDENCE TO PRODUCE L-TRYPTOPHAN. THEREFORE, THE STRAIN OF CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM CCRC 11631 WAS THEN SELECTED TO REPLACE CCRC 12511. HOWEVER, THE STRAIN OF CCRC 11631 DID NOT PRODUCE L-TRYPTOPHAN EITHER. THEN, THE STRAIN OF CCRC 11631 WAS MUTATED. ONE OF THE MUTATED STRAINS FROM CCRC 11631, NAMELY NO. 195, WAS SELECTED AS A POTENTIAL CANDIDATE FOR PRODUCING L-TRYPTOPHAN. AN EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN METHOD WAS USED TO STUDY THE OPTIMAL CULTIVATING CONDITION FOR MUTATED STRAIN NO. 195. THE THREE MAJOR FACTORS, INCLUDING THE CONCENTRATION OF GLUCOSE, THE TYPE OF NITROGEN SOURCES AND THE CULTIVATION TIME, WERE CONSIDERED. THROUGH THE ANALYSIS OF ANOVA (ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE), EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS SHOWED THAT THE INITIAL GLUCOSE CONCENTRATION, THE ORGANIC NITROGEN TYPE AND THE CULTIVATION TIME ALL HAD A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT TO THE YIELD OF BIOMASS. THE INITIAL GLUCOSE CONCENTRATION AND THE CULTIVATION TIME HAD A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT TO THE YIELD OF L-TRYPTOPHAN PRODUCTION, AND THE CULTIVATION TIME HAD NOT. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS SHOWED THAT THE OPTIMAL CULTIVATING CONDITION IS AS FOLLOWS: THE INITIAL GLUCOSE CONCENTRATION 40 G/L, THE ORGANIC NITROGEN TYPE CORN STEEP LIQUOR AND THE CULTIVATION TIME 72 H. THE CONCENTRATION OF L-TRYPTOPHAN COULD REACH 8.347 MG/L AFTER 72 H OF CULTIVATION OF STRAIN NO. 195 IN A SHAKER WITH A SPEED OF 150 RPM AND 30 °C. LATER, A JAR FERMENTOR OF 3 L WAS USED TO CULTIVATE STRAIN NO. 195 UNDER 30 °C AND PH 7.0. THE CONCENTRATION OF L-TRYPTOPHAN COULD REACH 13.5 MG/L AFTER 72 H CULTIVATION IN THE FERMENTOR WITH A WORKING VOLUME OF 2 L AND A STIRRING SPEED OF 250 RPM.

Keywords : L-TRYPTOPHAN, MUTANT, FERMENTATION, CORYNEBACTERIUM GLUTAMICUM

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