

PURIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF β -GLUCANASE FROM GANODERMA TSUGAE

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ABSTRACT

The bioactive carcinostatic substance in Lingzhi is high molecular weight polysaccharides linked by β -(1,3)-D-glucosidic bond. In this project, the β -glucanases from *Ganoderma tsugae* were isolated, purified and characterized. Purification of the β -1,3 glucanase from *Ganoderma tsugae* with a recovery of 4.2% and purity increase of 15.1 fold was achieved by ammonium sulfate fractionation, Sephadex G-50 and DEAE Sepharose CL-6B chromatography. The optimum pH for β -1,3 glucanase was 5.0. The enzyme was stable at pH 6.0. The optimum temperature for β -1,3 glucanase was 50 °C. The enzyme was rapidly denatured at temperature of 60 °C and above. Substrate specificity studies indicated this enzyme has maximum activity toward laminarin. The relative rate of hydrolysis of curdlan, lichenan and zymosan to that of laminarin was 16.1, 43.7 and 26.3%, respectively. Almost complete inhibition was observed with 10 mM Cu²⁺, while moderate inhibition was seen with Fe²⁺, Zn²⁺, Mn²⁺, Mg²⁺, Na⁺及Ca²⁺. Activity was unaffected by 10 mM Co²⁺. All the common inhibitors tested inhibited β -1,3 glucanase activity to various extents. The enzyme was completely inhibited by 10 mM L-ascorbic acid. The Km value of β -1,3 glucanase toward laminarin was 5.99 mg/ml, while Vmax was 129.87 OD/min. ml. Purification of the β -1,6 glucanase from *Ganoderma tsugae* with a recovery of 3.2% and purity increase of 15.6 fold was achieved by ammonium sulfate fractionation, Sephadex G-50 and DEAE Sepharose CL-6B chromatography. β -1,6 glucanase displayed relatively broad pH optimum. The enzyme was stable at pH 6.0. The optimum temperature for β -1,6 glucanase was 60 °C. The enzyme was rapidly denatured at temperature of 50 °C and above. Substrate specificity studies indicated this enzyme has maximum activity toward pustulan. The relative rate of hydrolysis of zymosan to that of pustulan was 48.3%. Almost complete inhibition was observed with 10 mM Ca²⁺, while moderate inhibition was seen with Fe²⁺, Zn²⁺, Mn²⁺, Mg²⁺, Na⁺及Cu²⁺. Activity was unaffected by 10 mM Co²⁺. All the common inhibitors tested inhibited β -1,6 glucanase activity to various extents. The enzyme was completely inhibited by 10 mM Sodium metabisulfite. The Km value of β -1,6 glucanase of toward pustulan was 1.88 mg/ml, while Vmax was 75.19 OD/min. ml. This study displayed that β -1,3 glucanase and β -1,6 glucanase from *Ganoderma tsugae* only hydrolyze specific 1-3 and 1-6 linkage types of β -glucans, respectively. Therefore, substrate specific β -1,3 glucanase and β -1,6 glucanase could be employed in the enzymatic assay to identify the authenticity of Lingzhi products on the market.

Keywords : *Ganoderma tsugae* ; bioactive ; polysaccharide ; β -glucanase ; enzymatic assay

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