Isolation of amylase producing bacteria from soil and its optimization of production parameters by shake flask culture method

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Abstract: The effects of various production parameters such as pH, temperature, incubation time and sources of carbon were tested in submerged fermentation process by shake flask culture method in production of amylase by bacteria isolated from groundnut field soil. The production medium with provision of glucose as carbon source, yeast extract as nitrogen source incubated for 48 h, maintained with pH of 6.5 at 39°C, was found optimal for production of amylase.

Keywords: amylase, shake flask culture, starch agar plate, fermentation.

1. Introduction

Enzymes are defined as biocatalysts protein in character, formed by living cells to carry out definite biochemical reactions, usually obtained from the elements of the metabolic progressions of the cell. Enzymes have extremely particular action on their specific substrates. At present 3000 enzymes are known but only few are scientifically and commercially subjugated. These are mainly extracellular hydrolytic enzymes, which degrade naturally occurring polymers such as starch, proteins, pectin's and cellulose.¹ Starch degrading amylolytic enzymes are of great significance in biotechnological applications ranging from food, textile to paper industries.²⁻³ The production of amylases is overshadowing all other enzymes; hence, account 65% of enzyme market in world.⁴⁻⁵

Amylases constitute a group of enzymes that yields dextrin and numerous monomer products by hydrolysing-1,4 glycosidic linkages of starch molecules. An endo-acting enzyme, α amylase and its hydrolyzes linkages hydrolyzes α -1,4 bonds in a unsystematic manner and bypass α -1, 6 linkages, leads to the development of linear and branched oligosaccharides and inhibit dextrins. An exo-acting enzyme, β -amylase hydrolyzes α -1, 4 by attacking the substrate from the non-reducing end and cannot bypass α -1, 6 linkages leads to the development a major end product oligosaccharide maltose which compose of 2 units of adjacent glucose. γ -Amylase (glucoamylase) is an exoacting enzyme that attacks the substrate from the non-reducing end and hydrolyzes α -1, 4 and α -1,6 linkages thus producing monosaccharides (1 unit of glucose) as a major end product.⁶ Amylases are used commercially for starch liquefaction, paper, desizing of textile fabrics, in preparing starch coatings of paints, in removing wall paper, food in the brewing industry, sugar induction by production of sugar syrups from starch which consist of glucose, maltose and higher oligosaccharides, pharmaceutical and in preparing cold water dispersible laundry starches. To meet the demands of these industries low cost medium is required for the production of amylases.⁷

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