

## **Bioproduction of citric acid exposed to lithium dodecyl sulfate**

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### **Abstract**

*The efficacy of lithium dodecyl sulfate on bioproduction of citric acid by some fungal strains such as *Aspergillus carbonarius* NCIM -2097, *Aspergillus saitoi* NCIM -2056, *Aspergillus usumii* NCIM - 2045, *Aspergillus wentii* NCIM - 2020 and *Aspergillus-niger* NCIM -2101 has been assessed. It has been found that the fungal strain *Aspergillus-niger* NCIM -2101 has been found most suitable to give higher yield of citric acid. The micelle; i.e. lithium dodecyl sulfate under trial has stimulatory effect on bioproduction of citric acid and enhances the yield of citric acid to an extent of 12.794% higher in comparison to control fermenter flasks, i.e., 8.566 g/100 ml in 12 days of optimum incubation period, 1.8 pH and 30 °C temperature with 28% (w/v) molasses solution alongwith other nutritional ingredients.*

**Key words:** *Molasses, citric acid fermentation, lithium dodecyl sulfate and *Aspergillus niger* NCIM2101*

### **Introduction**

A micelle is formed when a variety of molecules including soaps and detergents are added to water. The molecule may be a fatty acid, a salt of a fatty acid (soap), phospholipids, or other similar molecules<sup>1-10</sup>. The molecule must have a strongly polar “head” and a non-polar hydrocarbon chain “tail”. The polar head of the molecule presents itself for interaction with the water molecules on the outside of the micelle. Micelles either accelerates or retards the organic reactions depending on its nature<sup>11-20</sup>. It is assumed that micelles are moderators of enzyme actions in some biological systems<sup>21-23</sup>. There are several known micelles, but a very few micelles have been used in submerged fermentation processes<sup>24-42</sup>. Since micellar effect on fermentation studies especially citric acid fermentation is relatively new and almost unexplored, it needs careful and specific experimentations. In the present investigation the author has made an attempt to study the effect of lithium dodecyl sulfate on citric acid fermentation by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-983

### **Experimental**

The influence of lithium dodecyl sulfate on bioproduction of citric acid by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101. The composition of the production medium for production of citric acid by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101 has been prepared as follows :

Molasses: 28% (w/v), NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>:0.25% , KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> : 0.25%, MgSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O: 0.25%, pH : 1.8

The pH of the production medium was adjusted to 1.8 by adding requisite amount of KClHCl buffer solution, and this pH was also ascertained by a pH meter. The above composition medium represents

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volume of a fermenter flask, i.e., "100ml" production medium for bioproduction of citric acid by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101. Now, the same production medium for bioproduction of citric acid by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101 was prepared for 99-fermenter flask, i. e; each contained '100ml' of production medium.

The above 99-fermenter flasks were then arranged to 11-sets each comprising of 9-fermenter flasks. Each set was then rearranged in 3-subsets, each consisting of 3-fermenter flasks. The remaining 9-fermenter flasks out of 99-fermenter flasks were kept as control and these were also rearranged in 3-subsets each consisting of 3fermenter flasks.

After preparing the above sets of fermenter flasks M/1000 solution of lithium dodecyl sulfate was prepared and from the above lithium dodecyl sulfate solution 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0 and 10 ml was added to the fermentation flasks of above 1st to 10th sets respectively. The control fermenter flasks contained no lithium dodecyl sulfate.

Now, the total volume in each fermenter flasks was made up to 100 mL by adding requisite amount of distilled water. Thus, the molar concentration of lithium dodecyl sulfate in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th subsets were approximately as given below :

A x 10 <sup>-x</sup> M, i.e.,	
1.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	6.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M
2.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	7.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M
3.0 ×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8.0 ×10 <sup>-5</sup> M
4.0 ×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	9.0 ×10 <sup>-5</sup> M
5.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M	10.0×10 <sup>-5</sup> M

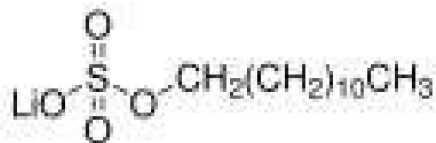
A = amount of lithium dodecyl sulfate , in mL, i.e., 1.0 mL ..... to 10 mL.

x = Molarity of the lithium dodecyl sulfate solution

The above fermenter flasks were then sterilized, cooled inoculated and incubated at 32<sup>0</sup>C and analysed after 8,12 and 14 days for citric acid formed<sup>43</sup>.

## Results and Discussion

### The influence of lithium dodecyl sulfate



The data given in the table 1 shows that the micelle lithium dodecyl sulfate has also been found stimulatory for the citric acid production by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101. From the data given in the table-3 it is obvious that lithium dodecyl sulfate influences the citric acid fermentation process in different phases. The main characteristics of the lithium dodecyl sulfate is as follows:

- (i) Lithium dodecyl sulfate is stimulatory at its all molar concentrations used during the course of fermentation for citric acid bioproduction by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101, i. e., from  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  to  $10.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ .
- (ii) The molar concentration  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ ,  $2.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ ,  $3.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ ,  $4.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ ,  $5.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  and  $6.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  of lithium dodecyl sulfate influence the yield of citric acid in a approximately regular increasing order after each state, i. e., 0.618%, 1.891%, 3.490% , 6.397%, 8.489% and 12.794%
- (iii) The molar concentration at  $7.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  to  $10.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  of lithium dodecyl sulfate also influences the productivity of citric acid in a regular decreasing manner. The % increase in the yield of citric acid at respective molar concentration of lithium dodecyl sulfate has been found to be as follows : 10.494%, 8.592%, 4.296% and 2.393%
- (iv) The maximum yield of citric acid, i.e; 9.662g/100 ml in the presence of lithium dodecyl sulfate was observed at  $6.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  molar concentration in 12 days of optimum incubation period which is 12.794% higher in comparison to control fermenter flasks, i.e; 8.566g/100 ml in the same times course and other same experimental parameters.
- (v). The higher molar concentrations of lithium dodecyl sulfate were not much favourable for citric acid production by *Aspergillus niger* NCIM-2101 So the gradual addition of the micelle lithium dodecyl sulfate after molar concentrations

$6.0 \times 10^{-5}M$  and onwards were not beneficial for the citric acid fermentation process.

**Table 1:** Bioproduction of citric acid exposed to Lithium dodecyl sulfate

Concentration of micelle used $A \times 10^{-x}M$	Incubation period in days	Molasses* left unfermented in g/100 ml	Yields of citric acid* in g/100 ml	% of Citric acid increased after 12 days
Control	8	6.253	5.749	-
(-) Micelle	12	8.566	3.438	-
	14	7.286	3.336	-
$1.0 \times 10^{-5}M$	8	6.290	5.710	-
(+) Micelle	12	8.619	3.385	+ 0.618
	14	7.518	3.294	-
$2.0 \times 10^{-5}M$	8	6.359	5.642	-
(+) Micelle	12	8.728	3.279	+ 1.891
	14	7.625	3.188	-
$3.0 \times 10^{-5}M$	8	6.459	5.549	-
(+) Micelle	12	8.865	3.138	+ 3.490
	14	7.763	3.049	-
$4.0 \times 10^{-5}M$	8	6.640	5.369	-
(+) Micelle	12	9.114	2.888	+ 6.397
	14	8.019	2.797	-

5.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8	6.771	5.232	-
(+) Micelle	12	9.294	2.711	+ 8.498
	14	8.189	2.622	-
6.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M**	8	7.040	4.966	-
(+) Micelle	12	9.662***	2.339	+ 12.794
	14	8.559	2.145	-
7.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8	6.897	5.110	-
(+) Micelle	12	9.465	2.539	+ 10.494
	14	8.361	2.448	-
8.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8	6.778	5.229	-
(+) Micelle	12	9.302	2.698	+8.592
	14	8.200	2.597	-
9.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8	6.509	5.498	-
(+) Micelle	12	8.934	3.166	+4.296
	14	7.830	3.053	-
10.0x10 <sup>-5</sup> M	8	6.390	5.615	-
(+) Micelle	12	8.771	3.229	+2.393
	14	7.670	3.138	-

\* Each value represents mean of three trials

\*\* Optimum concentration of micelle used

\*\*\* Optimum yield of citric acid

(+) values indicate % increase in the yield of citric acid after 12 days. Experimental deviation ( $\pm$ ) 1.5-3%

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