

Preliminary Study on Keratinase from Two Indonesian Isolates

Title	Preliminary Study on Keratinase from Two Indonesian Isolates
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Accreditation	
Abstract	<p>Keratinases (E.C.3.4.99.11) constitute a group of enzymes capable of disrupting the highly stable keratin structure consisting of disulphide, hydrogen, and hydrophobic bonds in the form of α-helices and β-sheets. <i>B. licheniformis</i> MB-2 and <i>Bacillus</i> sp. MTS are two feather-degrading bacteria isolated from Tompasso crater at North Sulawesi and sulfuric land around Tangkuban Perahu in West Java. They were both capable of breaking down whole chicken feathers. In addition both isolates were capable of degrading other proteinous substrates rich in beta structure such as cocoon, silk, human hair and fish scales. Result of fermentation experiment implied that addition of nitrogen sources (0.02% yeast extract and 0.02% tryptone) to the basal medium increased keratinase production. Our experiments showed that keratinase production of <i>Bacillus</i> sp. MTS was higher and faster than that from <i>B. licheniformis</i> MB-2. Maximum extracellular keratinase activity of the enzyme derived from <i>B. licheniformis</i> was obtained during stationary phase at 72 h, while <i>Bacillus</i> sp. MTS was reached at 48 h. Disulfide reductase activity also detected in the extracellular fluid of <i>Bacillus</i> sp. MTS. The maximum condition for extracellular keratinase activity was 55°C and the enzyme showed two maximum pHs: pH 8.0 and pH 10. The zymogram analysis indicated six protein bands of 17, 25, 32, 53, 96 and 122 kD which were able to hydrolyze gelatin substrate in-situ. (Animal Production 12(1): 60-68 (2010))</p> <p>Key Words : <i>Bacillus</i>, feather, keratinase, disulfide reductase</p>
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