

Fuel

Optimization of media components and culture conditions for polyhydroxyalkanoates production by *Bacillus megaterium*

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Abstract

Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB) accumulating *Bacillus megaterium* was isolated from marine water. To increase the PHB productivity by *Bacillus megaterium*, steps were taken to evaluate the effects of carbon sources (arabinose, glucose, glycerol, lactose, lactic acid, mannitol, sodium acetate, starch and sucrose at a level of 20 g/L), nitrogen sources (ammonium chloride, ammonium sulphate, glycine, potassium nitrate, protease peptone and urea at a level of 2 g/L) and different pH. A maximum yield of 2.74 g/L of PHB was achieved for glucose as the carbon source and ammonium sulphate as the nitrogen source at pH 7. The optimized conditions were further used for batch fermentation throughout 72 h. Significantly maximum PHB of 5.61 g/L was obtained in a laboratory scale bioreactor at 64 h. The extracted polymer was compared with the authentic PHB and was confirmed to be PHB using FTIR, ¹H NMR, DSC and TGA analysis, respectively.