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<u>TOP</u> > <u>Available Issues</u> > <u>Table of Contents</u> > Abstract

ONLINE ISSN : 1880-7291 PRINT ISSN : 1344-7882

Journal of Applied Glycoscience

Vol. 51 (2004), No. 3 pp.255-257

[PDF (410K)] [References]



## **Production and Rheology of Exopolysaccharide by the Yeast** *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa* **YR-2**

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(Received September 20, 2003) (Accepted March 20, 2004)

The production and rheology of exomannan by the yeast *Rhokotorula mucilaginosa* YR-2 was studied. Cultures were incubated at 30°C in medium (sucrose: 100 g/L; ammonium sulfate: 20 g/L). Fermentation used a 10-liter fermentor aerated at 1 vvm, and 550 rpm. During culture, the pH was adjusted to 1.8 with ammonia solution. The maximum amounts of exopolysaccharide (7.8 g/L) and biomass (39.2 g/L) were obtained at 120 h. This mannan was much less viscous than other polysaccharides, and had excellent physical stability in terms of pH, freezing, and NaCl concentration.

Key words: Rhodotorula, mannan, viscosity, physical stability

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Jun Takita, Ruriko Itano, Naoya Morii, Futoshi Ebina, Kiichi Matsuda and Shigeyoshi Katohda: Production and Rheology of Exopolysaccharide by the Yeast *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa* YR-2 . *J. Appl. Glycosci.*, **51**, 255-257 (2004) .

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