



Received on 08 May, 2013; received in revised form, 26 June, 2013; accepted, 26 August, 2013; published 01 September, 2013

## SCREENING AND ISOLATION OF FIBRINOLYTIC PROTEASE PRODUCING MESOPHILIC BACTERIA FROM SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN BANGALORE

E. Venkata Naga Raju\* and G. Divakar

Department of Biotechnology, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar, Guntur- 522 510, Andhra Pradesh, India

Department of Biotechnology & Microbiology, Acharya & B.M. Reddy College of Pharmacy, Soldevanahalli, Hesaraghatta, Bangalore- 560 090, Karnataka, India

### Keywords:

Fibrinolytic Protease, Slaughter houses, Fibrin plate, *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

### Correspondence to Author:

**E. Venkata Naga Raju**

Department of Biotechnology,  
Acharya Nagarjuna University,  
Nagarjuna Nagar, Guntur- 522 510,  
Andhra Pradesh, India

E-mail:

venkatanagarajue@gmail.com

**ABSTRACT:** This work has been undertaken for the screening and isolation of fibrinolytic protease producing mesophilic bacteria from ten soil samples, collected from slaughter houses various regions of Bangalore and used to screen for fibrinolytic protease production by using fibrin plate assay. In the present study, an attempt was made to isolate efficient fibrinolytic protease producing bacteria from diverse environmental samples. Different isolates were screened for possessing the ability to produce fibrinolytic protease. About 5 bacterial isolates were found to be promising to produce fibrinolytic protease. The organisms were tested for various biochemical tests, which leads to their identification as *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *E.coli*.

**INTRODUCTION:** Enzymes are delicate protein molecules necessary for life. Proteolytic enzymes are ubiquitous in occurrence, being found in all living organisms, and are essential for cell growth and differentiation<sup>1</sup>. The extracellular proteases are commercial value and find multiple applications in various industrial sectors. Although there are many microbial sources available for producing proteases, only a few are recognized as commercial producers<sup>2</sup>. Of these, strains of *Bacillus sp.* dominate the industrial sector<sup>3</sup>.

Fibrinolytic enzyme is well known as a sub class of protease, which has an ability to degrade fibrin<sup>4, 5, 6, 7, 8</sup>. Blood clots (fibrin) are formed from fibrinogen by thrombin (EC 3.4.21.5) and are lysed by plasmin (EC 3.4.21.7), which is activated from plasminogen by tissue plasminogen activator<sup>9</sup>. Deposition of fibrin in blood vessels normally increases thrombosis, resulting in myocardial infarction and other cardiovascular diseases<sup>10, 11</sup>.

Fibrinolytic proteases are the single class of enzymes which play an important part in the metabolism of many microorganisms like species of *Pseudomonas*<sup>12</sup>, *staphylococcus*<sup>13</sup>, *Alteromonas*<sup>14</sup>, *Coryneform bacteria*<sup>15</sup>, *Penicillium*<sup>16</sup>, *Asperigillus*<sup>17, 18, 19</sup>, *Fusarium*<sup>20, 21</sup>, *Trichotecium*<sup>22</sup>, *Actinomyces*<sup>23, 24</sup>, *Streptomyces*<sup>25, 26</sup>, *Escherichia coli*<sup>27</sup> and *Bacillus*<sup>28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34</sup>.

### QUICK RESPONSE CODE



### DOI:

10.13040/IJPSR.0975-8232.4(9).3625-29

Article can be accessed online on:  
www.ijpsr.com

DOI link: [http://dx.doi.org/10.13040/IJPSR.0975-8232.4\(9\).3625-29](http://dx.doi.org/10.13040/IJPSR.0975-8232.4(9).3625-29)

Investigation of fibrinolytic proteases is a central issue in enzymology due to their wide applications in clinical, pharmaceutical, food, and bioremediation process. Among the various proteases, bacterial extracellular proteases are the most significant, compared with animal, Plants, viruses and fungal extracellular proteases.

Extracellular proteases produced by *Bacillus* species are of main interest from a biotechnological perspective, and are not only in scientific fields of protein chemistry and protein engineering but also in applied fields such as foods and pharmaceutical industries. The genus *Bacillus* contains a number of industrially important species and approximately half of the present commercial production of bulk enzymes derives from the strains of *Bacillus*.

In this study, an attempt was made for the screening and isolation of fibrinolytic protease producing mesophilic bacteria from slaughter houses various regions of Bangalore.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

**Collection and isolation of sample:** Samples were collected from slaughter houses of beef, chicken and fish at Soldevanahalli, Chikkabanavara, Devasandra, K.R. Puram, Tannary road and Yashwanthpur in and around Bangalore, Karnataka, India. The samples were labeled after collected. These were spread onto isolation media (Fibrin plate agar) and incubated at 37°C for 24 hours after serial dilution of 10<sup>-1</sup> to 10<sup>-6</sup>.

**TABLE 1: TABULATION FOR SAMPLES DESCRIPTION**

S. No.	Designation of sample	Sample collected area	Sample collected land mark	Sample nature	Sample pH
1	ABMRCP -1	Shivaji Nagar	Opposite to Masjid at Chiken center	Semisolid sticky Seems to Brown in color	7.68
2	ABMRCP -2	Tannery Road	Near to Bus stop at Chiken center	Semisolid Seems to Black in color	7.80
3	ABMRCP -3	Tannery Road	Near to Bus stop Chiken Center	Semisolid Seems to Brown in color	7.72
4	ABMRCP -4	Tannery Road	Slaughter house opposite canal	Hard consist of sand and clay seems to Brown in color	7.80
5	ABMRCP -5	Solddevanahalli	Near to Bus stop Chiken Center	Semisolid Seems to Brown in color	7.72
6	ABMRCP -6	Chikka Banavara	Near to Bus stop Chiken Center	Sticky consist of sand and clay seems to Brick red in color	7.44
7	ABMRCP -7	K.R.Puram	Devasandra lake Chiken dump	Semisolid Seems to red in color	7.71
8	ABMRCP -8	Tin Factory	Opposite to Masjid at Chiken center	Semisolid Seems to red in color	7.60
9	ABMRCP -9	Tin Factory	Near to Bus stop Chiken Center	Hard consist clay seems to Black in color	7.26
10	ABMRCP -10	Yashwanth Pura	Fish market Near to Railway station	Sticky consist of sand and clay seems to Black	7.34

**Screening of Fibrinolytic proteases production by plate assay:** The isolates were screened for fibrinolytic protease activity in triplets. This was done by inoculating the organisms on the modified fibrin plate agar<sup>35</sup>. Containing 1.2% w/v agarose,

0.4% w/v human fibrinogen and 20U/ml human thrombin in a petridisc and incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. A clear zone around the growth of the bacteria was indicated to fibrinolytic proteases activity.

**TABLE 2: TABULATION FOR RESULTS OF COLONY CHARACTERISTICS WHICH SHOW FIBRINOLYTIC PROTEASES ACTIVITY**

Strain no.	Colony surface	Colony color	Visual characteristics	Shape of the colony	Height of the colony	Fibrinolytic activity
GD-15	Smooth	Brown	Opaque	Irregular	Raised	Positive
GD-25	Smooth	Off white	Translucent	Circular	Raised	Positive
GD-35	Smooth	Brown	Translucent	Irregular	Flat	Positive
GD-45	Smooth	Off white	Opaque	Irregular	Raised	Positive
GD-55	Rough	White	Opaque	Irregular	Flat	Positive



ISOLATES ON FIBRIN PLATE AGAR



PURE CULTURE IN PETRIDISH



PURE CULTURE IN SLANTS

FIGURE 1, 2, AND 3: FIBRINOLYTIC PROTEASES PRODUCTION AND PURE CULTURES

**Identification of Bacteria:** The isolated bacteria were identified based on cellular morphology, growth condition, grams staining, endospore staining, capsule staining and biochemical tests<sup>36, 37</sup>.

TABLE 3: TABULATION FOR RESULTS OF STAINING TECHNIQUES

Strain no.	Gram staining	Morphology (Bacillus/Cocci)	Endospore staining	Capsule staining
GD-15	Negative	Rods	Negative	Positive
GD-25	Positive	Rods	Positive	Positive
GD-35	Negative	Rods	Negative	Positive
GD-45	Negative	Rods	Negative	Positive
GD-55	Positive	Rods	Positive	Positive

TABLE 4: TABULATION FOR RESULTS OF VARIOUS BIOCHEMICAL TESTS

Strain no.	Indole	MR	VP	Amylase	Nitrate	Oxidase	Catalase	Urease	Gelatinase	Fibrinolytic Activity
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> GD-15	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve
<i>Bacillus circulans</i> GD-25	-Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> GD-35	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	-Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve
<i>E. coli</i> GD-45	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve
<i>Bacillus cereus</i> GD-55	-Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve	+Ve	-Ve	+Ve

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:** Five bacterial isolates were obtained (Table 3) from soil samples of ABMRCP 1 to ABMRCP 10 (Table 1), identified morphologically and biochemically as *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *E. coli*. The colonies were subjected to grams staining, capsule staining and endospore staining.

The colonies which were positive and negative for grams staining, capsule and endospore staining were considered for further studies (Table 3 & 4). The selected colonies were streaked on fibrin plate agar. The plates were subjected to incubation for a period of 24 hours at 37°C. The plates which showed clear zone around the streaked area of test organism were selected as fibrinolytic proteases producing strain.

The organisms named (Table 2) showed the inhibition zone and were subjected to various biochemical tests (Table 4).

GD isolates (Table 2) showed the following results for the biochemical tests. These were positive for methyl red test, starch hydrolysis, citrate utilization test, oxidase test, gelatin hydrolysis test, urease test and nitrate reduction test and few isolates were shows negative for Voges Paskauer test, indole test and catalase test. After biochemical tests these organisms were confirmed to belong to the *Bacillus* species (*Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *E. coli*) which shows the capability of producing fibrinolytic protease.

**CONCLUSION:** Keeping in view the industrial importance of fibrinolytic proteases, researchers are more and more focusing on discovering fibrinolytic proteases with novel properties to meet the industrial requirements as well as increasing demand of global enzyme market. The search for promising strains of fibrinolytic proteases producers is a continuous process. The isolates which show higher fibrinolytic proteases activity were selected for biochemical characterization and identification. The organisms were identified as *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus circulans*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *E.coli*. On the basis of data obtained in the present work it can be concluded that *Bacillus* species isolates can be employed in the production of fibrinolytic proteases.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** The authors would like to thank the chairman Acharya Institutes, Sri B. Premnath Reddy, for providing laboratory facilities and supporting this research work.

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**How to cite this article:**

Raju EVN and Divakar G: Screening and isolation of Fibrinolytic protease producing Mesophilic bacteria from slaughter houses in Bangalore. *Int J Pharm Sci Res* 2013; 4(9); 3625-3629. doi: 10.13040/IJPSR.0975-8232.4(9).3625-29

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