

Enhancement of Bacteriocin Production by Its Sensitive Strain

Hae Choon Chang

Department of food and nutrition, Chosun University

Introduction

Bacteriocin are bactericidal proteins that inhibit species closely related to the producer culture. Many bacteriocins have been identified and characterized for the industrially important lactic acid bacteria or *Bacillus* sp.. They include lactacin, nisin, lactocin, helveticin, sakacin, plantaricin, subtilin, bacilysin, botrycidin and others. To date, all characterized bacteriocins of bacteriocin producers have been produced in pure culture. Several reports have shown that production of bacteriocins is regulated via cell density dependent quorum-sensing mechanism. In these case, the bacteriocins also act as autoinducers or via quorum-sensing mechanism mediated by peptide pheromone or autoinducer. While pH, temperature, growth phase, media condition, and other microoganisms have been proposed to play an important role in the regulation of bacteriocin production. In fact, LAB are known to be more or less capable of producing bacteriocins depending on environmental conditions. But little or nothing is known about how these factors interact with the regulatory systems controling bacteriocin production.

We isolated bacteriocin producing some lactic acid bacteria and *Bacillus* sp. from Korea fermented foods, Kimchi and Doeonjang(soybean paste) and characterized the bacteriocins. During this work, we found out that some bacteriocin production was enhanced by presence of its sensitive strain. In this study, we reported the effect of bacteriocin sensitive strain on bacteriocin production and identified the responsible agent that influence the bacteriocin production.

Results

Table 1. Enhancement of bacteriocin GJ7 by Leu. citreum GJ7 in the presence of thermally inactivated lactic acid bacteria

| Co-cultivation | Antimicrobial activity |
|---|------------------------|
| Leu. citreum GJ7 | + |
| Leu citreum GJ7 + Lb Plantarum KFRI 464 | ++++ |
| Leu. citreum GJ7 + Lb. delbruekii KFRI 347 | +++ |
| Leu citreum GJ7 + Lb Acidophilus KFRI 150 | + |
| Leu citreum GJ7 + Leu mesenteroides KCTC 1628 | +++ |
| Leu citreum GJ7 + Lb plantarum KFRI 236 | + |
| Leu. citreum GJ7 + Leu Mesenteroides KFRI 218 | + |

Table 2 Stability of the inducing factor of bacteriocin GJ7

| Treatment | Antimicrobial activity | |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Heat treatment | | |
| bacteriocin GJ7(control) | + | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/4 °C, 3 h | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/37 °C, 3 h | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/50 °C, 3 h | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/70 °C, 3 h | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/100 °C, 30 min | +++ | |
| bacteriocın GJ7 + IF/121 °C, 15 min | +++ | |
| Proteolytic enzymes | | |
| bacteriocin GJ7(control) | + | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/AEBSF(100 mM) | ++ | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/proteinase K(2mg/ml) and then AEBSF(100 mM) | + | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/trypsin(2mg/ml) and then AEBSF(100 mM) | + | |
| bacteriocin GJ7 + IF/α-chymotrypsin(2mg/ml) and then AEBSF(100 mM) | + | |

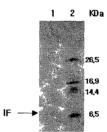


Figure 1. Tricine-SDS-PAGE of purified IF from Lb. plantarum KFRI 464

Table 3. Antimicrobial activity of BSCX1 against other bacteria

| Indicator strains | Activity ¹⁾ |
|--|------------------------|
| Bacıllus subtilis ATCC6633 gram(+) | + |
| Curtobacterium sp. cf3 gram(+) | + |
| Listeria monocytogenes KCTC3569 gram(+) | + |
| Salmonella typhimurium ATCC19430 gram(-) | + |
| Escherichia coli ATCC25922 gram(-) | + |
| Leuconostoc mesenteroides KCTC1628 gram(+) | + |
| Micrococcus luters ATCC9341 gram(+) | - |
| Staphylococcus aureus ATCC29213 gram(+) | + |
| Streptococcus mutans ATCC25175 gram(+) | _ |
| Streptococcus faecalis ATCC29212 gram(+) | + |
| Pseudomonas aeruginosa ATCC27853 gram(-) | + |
| Pseudomonas aeruginosa ATCC9027 gram(-) | - |

Table 4. Production of bacteriocin BSCX1 by pure or mixed culture

| Culture condition ¹⁾ | Activity ²⁾ |
|---|------------------------|
| producer alone(B. subtilis cx1) | + |
| B subtilis ex1+B. subtilis ATCC6633 0.01% | ++ |
| B subtilis cx1+B subtilis ATCC6633 0.1% | +++ |
| B subtilis cx1+B subtilis ATCC6633 1% | ++ |

Table 5. Effect of temperature on inducing activity of inducing factor from B. subtilis ATCC6633

| Culture condition ¹⁾ | | Activity ²⁾ |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| control | producer alone (B subtilis cx1) | + |
| control | B subtilis cx1+IF | ++ |
| The second secon | 4℃ | ++ |
| IF/heat treated | 30℃ | ++ |
| | 37℃ | ++ |
| | 50℃ | + |
| | 70℃ | + |
| | 100℃ | + |
| | 121℃ | + |

Table 6. Effect of EDTA concentration on inducing activity of inducing factor from B. subtilis ATCC6633

| Culture condition | Activity ¹⁾ |
|--|------------------------|
| producer alone(B. subtilis cx1) | + |
| B. subtilis cx1+IF treated with 0 mM EDTA | ++ |
| B subtilis cx1+IF treated with 0.5 mM EDTA | +++ |
| B subtilis cx1+IF treated with 1 mM EDTA | ++ |
| B. subtilis cx1+IF treated with 2 mM EDTA | + |

Discussion

This study provides evidence that the production of bacteriocin in lactic acid bacteria can be enhanced by the presence of bacteriocin sensitive strains, and identified the responsible agent that influence the bacteriocin production.

Although several repots have documented bacteriocin production by other microorganism, none previously have identified the responsible agent from sensitive cells to enhance the bacteriocin production. We believe that this study is first report to identify the responsible agent from other microorganism that influence the bacteriocin production. Now we are working an cloning of the inducing factor was carried out by using the determined N-terminus probe. The extract mechanism by which enhancement of bacteriocin production occurs should be clear by determination and characterization of the inducing factor whole molecule by further investigation.

References

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