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Optimization of culture medium containing date waste for lipase production by *Aspergillus niger* using RSM method

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Among the enzymes, lipases are an important group with wide applications in various industries. Different strains of *A.niger* have been widely studied for the production of extracellular lipase. The agar plate method for screening of lipase producing strain by olive oil / rhodamine B was used along with direct assessment of the enzyme solution. The best lipase producer strain was used for the study by submerged culture in medium containing date waste. RSM method was used to optimize the composition of the culture medium containing the carbon source, nitrogen source and lipase inducer. The highest lipase production was observed in medium containing 2.74% date waste, 1.06% yeast extract and peptone and 2.06% olive oil respectively. The yield of lipase produced by *A.niger* in culture medium containing date waste after optimization of medium components was equal to 10200 U in units of enzyme produced per liter of culture medium. The yield of lipase taken from date waste after optimization of medium components was equal to 372.26 units per gram of consumed date waste. The maximum enzyme production was observed at 102 hours of culture.

Keywords: Lipase, *A.niger*, RSM, Date waste

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