

Superoxide Dismutase during Glucose Repression of *Hansenula polymorpha* CBS 4732

Tsonka Hristozova^a, Tanya Rasheva^b, Trayana Nedeva^b and Anna Kujumdzieva^{b,*}

^a Institute of Microbiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 26 Acad. G. Bonchev St., 1113 Sofia, Bulgaria

^b Department of General and Industrial Microbiology, Faculty of Biology, The Sofia University, 8 Dragan Tsankov St., 1421, Sofia, Bulgaria.
Fax: (+35 92) 66 86 19. E-mail: kujumdzieva@biofac.uni-sofia.bg

* Author for correspondence and reprint requests

Z. Naturforsch. **57c**, 313–318 (2002); received October 31/December 5, 2001

Glucose Repression, Methylophilic Yeast, Superoxide Dismutase

Hansenula polymorpha CBS 4732 was studied during cultivation on methanol and different glucose concentrations. Activities of Cu/Zn and Mn superoxide dismutase, catalase and methanol oxidase were investigated. During cultivation on methanol, increased superoxide dismutase and catalase activities and an induced methanol oxidase were achieved. Transfer of a methanol grown culture to medium with a high glucose concentration caused growth inhibition, low consumption of carbon, nitrogen and phosphate substrates, methanol oxidase inactivation as well as decrease of catalase activity ($21.8 \pm 0.61 \Delta E_{240} \times \text{min}^{-1} \times \text{mg protein}^{-1}$). At the same time, a high value for superoxide dismutase enzyme was found ($42.9 \pm 0.98 \text{ U} \times \text{mg protein}^{-1}$, 25% of which was represented by Mn superoxide dismutase and 75% – by the Cu/Zn type). During derepression methanol oxidase was negligible ($0.005 \pm 0.0001 \text{ U} \times \text{mg protein}^{-1}$), catalase tended to be the same as in the repressed culture, while superoxide dismutase activity increased considerably ($63.67 \pm 1.72 \text{ U} \times \text{mg protein}^{-1}$, 69% belonging to the Cu/Zn containing enzyme).

Apparently, the cycle of growth inhibition and reactivation of *Hansenula polymorpha* CBS 4732 cells is strongly connected with the activity of the enzyme superoxide dismutase.