

Index

Abstract:	I
Introduction:	3-7
<i>Metabolism of n-alkane in Gordonia SoCg</i>	
Chapter I:	8-53
<i>An alkane hydroxylase system of Gordonia sp. strain SoCg is involved in degradation of solid n-alkanes.</i>	
Introduction:	8-22
<i>Alkane hydroxylases in Gram negative and Gram positive bacteria</i>	
▪ Aerobic bacterial degradation of n-alkane	9
▪ The AlkB family of alkane hydroxylases	10-13
▪ Cytochrome P450 alkane hydroxylases	14
▪ Alkane hydroxylases for long-chain n-alkanes	15
▪ The role of the rubredoxin-rubredoxin reductase system	16
▪ Metabolism of the alcohols and aldehydes derived from the oxidation of alkanes	17-18
▪ Regulation of genes involved in aerobic n-alkane utilization in bacteria	19-22
Aims	22
Materials and Methods:	23-31
▪ Bacterial strains, culture conditions and vectors	23
▪ PFGE analysis	24
▪ Southern hybridization analysis.	24
▪ Cloning and sequence analysis of <i>Gordonia SoCg alk</i> genes	25
▪ Heterologous expression of <i>alkB</i> in <i>S. coelicolor</i> and <i>E. coli</i>	26
▪ Time course of growth on n-alkanes.	26
▪ Time course of n-alkane consumption	27
▪ Analysis of the metabolic intermediates from n-alkanes oxidation pathway	28
▪ Total RNA isolation, RT-PCR analysis, and absolute qRT-PCR	29
▪ <i>Gordonia SoCg</i> electrocompetents cells	30
▪ Construction of <i>Gordonia SoCg alkB</i> disruption mutant	30-31
Results:	32-49
▪ Identification and properties of strain SoCg	32-33

▪ Growth on long chain <i>n</i> -alkanes and biotransformation kinetics.	34-35
▪ Cloning and sequence analysis of SoCg <i>alk</i> genes	36
▪ Characterization of AH system of <i>Gordonia</i> SoCg	37-49
• <i>alk</i> genes expression analysis	37-38
• Long chain <i>n</i> -alkanes biotransformation	38-39
• The <i>alkB</i> disruption mutant	40-43
• AlkB heterologous expression in <i>S. coelicolor</i> and <i>E. coli</i>	44-48
• <i>S. coelicolor</i> MI45-AH expressing SoCg <i>alkB</i> grows on <i>n</i> -triacontane	49
 Discussions	 50-53
 Chapter II:	 54-77
<i>Converting excess carbon into storage materials.</i>	
 Introduction:	 55-64
▪ Microbial strategies for accessing long chain <i>n</i> -alkanes	57
▪ Membrane Alterations	58-60
▪ Converting excess carbon into storage materials	61
▪ Physiological role of the neutral lipids	62
▪ Pathways for Wax ester synthesis	62
▪ Atf enzymes	63-64
 Aims	 64
 Materials and Methods:	 65-74
▪ Analysis of neutral lipid	65
• TLC analysis	65
• SPME-GC-MS analysis	65
• Detection of <i>atfa</i>	66
• In vivo analysis of <i>atfa</i> -like gene expression.	67
 Results:	 68-74
▪ Analysis of storage compounds	68-70
▪ Identification of <i>atfa</i> -like gene in <i>Gordonia</i> SoCg	71-72

▪ Screening for estimation of copy number of the <i>atfa</i> -like gene	73
▪ In vivo expression analysis of <i>atfa</i> -like gene	74
Discussions	75-77
Chapter III:	78-97
<i>Proteomic insights into metabolic adaptation.</i>	
Introduction:	79-84
▪ Behavioral and physiological responses to hydrocarbons	79-82
▪ The genus <i>Streptomyces</i>	83-84
Aims	84
Materials and Methods:	85-87
▪ Heterologous expression of <i>alkB</i> in <i>S. coelicolor</i>	85
▪ Analysis of the metabolic intermediates from <i>n</i> -alkanes oxidation pathway.	85
▪ <i>In vivo</i> analysis of heterologous expression of <i>alkB</i>	85
▪ Total protein extraction and DIGE analysis	86-87
Results:	88-97
▪ Experimental design	88-90
▪ General results	90
▪ Protein identification	90-94
▪ Main remarks 7	94-97
Conclusions:	98-102
Tables:	103-110
• Table 1	104-105
• Table 2	105-106
• Table 3	106
• Table 4	107-110

Acknowledgements

III

References

112-120