

Improvement of red-pigment-producing fungal strain (*Monascus purpureus* FTC 5391) using monospore isolation technique

ABSTRACT

Monospore isolation technique was performed to obtain the improved strain that has high and consistent ability to produce red pigment. The ability of *Monascus purpureus* FTC 5391 wild strain in producing red pigment was successfully improved using monospore isolation technique. By using this approach of improvement, three different monospore isolates of *M. purpureus* FTC 5391 (MP 3, MP 4 and MP 5) were obtained as the best red pigment producers when glucose, potato starch and rice starch were used as carbon source, respectively.

Keyword: *Monascus purpureus*; Monospore isolation technique; Red-pigment