

**Molecular expression of a recombinant thermostable bacterial amylase from *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* SR74 using methanol-free *Meyerozyma guilliermondii* strain SO yeast system**

ABSTRACT

$\alpha$ -Amylase, which was isolated from *Geobacillus stearothermophilus* SR74, has shown its potential to be used in industrial applications. However, its expression in the *Pichia pastoris* expression system with the alcohol oxidase 1 promoter (PAOX1) requires high methanol consumption and is time-consuming. This study aimed to express SR74  $\alpha$ -amylase in an alternative yeast system, using *Meyerozyma guilliermondii* strain SO, which was isolated from a spoiled orange (SO) under the regulation of a formaldehyde dehydrogenase promoter (PFLD). Qualitative screening showed that strain SO possessed a native amylase grown on YPD-starch plate at 30 °C. The recombinant SR74  $\alpha$ -amylase was further quantified and validated using the Western blot test. It was confirmed that SR74  $\alpha$ -amylase was expressed by strain SO extracellularly with a size of 59 kDa. Optimization in a shake flask showed that the recombinant SR74  $\alpha$ -amylase, which was regulated by PFLD, was successfully produced (26 U/mL) without any external inducer in the YPT medium after 24 h of cultivation. In conclusion, strain SO was able to produce SR74 amylase without methanol in one-fifth the fermentation time of *P. pastoris*. Further optimization of the expression may be done to improve the yield, as this methanol-free host is still underexplored.

**Keyword:** SR74  $\alpha$ -amylase; FLD promoter; *Meyerozyma guilliermondii* strain SO; Yeast; *Pichia* sp.; Amylase; *Geobacillus stearothermophilus*