

Heterologous expression and characterization of plant lipase LIP2 from *Elaeis guineensis* Jacq. oil palm Mesocarp in *Escherichia coli*

ABSTRACT

In order to determine the potential of biochemical and structural features of *Elaeis guineensis* Jacq. oil palm mesocarp lipases, the LIP2 gene was isolated, expressed, purified and characterized through the *Escherichia coli* microbial recombinant system. Gene analysis of LIP2 revealed that it is composed of 1584 base pairs which are encoded in 528 amino acid residues with a molecular weight of around 57 kDa. LIP2 has distinctive lipolytic properties in terms of α/β fold and the catalytic triad for lipase. The LIP2 lipase was successfully expressed and purified from *E. coli* Rosetta (DE3) via affinity chromatography. The optimal temperature and pH for the lipase activity was 30 °C and a pH of 9, respectively. Stability was profoundly increased with the addition of metal ions (Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, Mn⁺, and Ni⁺), along with organic solvents (ethanol and octanol). pNP myristate was the most suitable among all pNP esters. In biophysical characterization analysis, LIP2 has a thermal denaturing point at 66 °C, which mostly consists of random patterns (39.8%) followed by α -helix (30.3%), turns (23.8%) and β -sheet (6.2%). From the successful purification and characterization, the potential of oil palm mesocarp lipase was able to be further explored.

Keyword: Lipase; Oil palm mesocarp; Purification; Characterization