Bioethanol production from mannitol using Serratia sp. JMP1

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Biorefinery of marine biomass has been focused as an alternative energy production processes, and to enhance the bioethanol production from macroalgae it is needed to screen suitable fermenting microorganisms which can utilize carbon sources derived from macroalgae. Laminaria Japonica is one of the most abundant brown algae in Korea and could be a great source for biorefinery due to high growth rate and carbohydrate contents. Mannitol is a major carbohydrate derived from L. japonica, however not easily utilized by traditional fermenting microoraganisms. Serratia sp. JMP1, isolated from the gut of turban shell, was investigated its saccharolytic activities against alginate, laminaran and cellulose; and also its fermenting ability using mannitol. Serratia sp. JMP1 grew slower under anaerobic condition than aerobic, while showed high specific ethanol productivity using mannitol (anaerobic: 13.0 gEtOH/g DCW; aerobic 3.2 g EtOH/g DCW). Mannitol was proved as more favorable than glucose for ethanol production by Serratia sp. JMP1: the maximum yield was 59.8 mg/g mannitol (aerobic) and; 214.3 mg/g mannitol (anaerobic)by 2.7 and 2.9 times higher than glucose, respectively.