

Effect of temperature , carbon and nitrogen sources on growth of *Pseudomonas fluorescens*

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Experiment was conducted *in vitro* to see the effect of temperature, carbon and nitrogen sources on growth of different isolates of *Pseudomonas fluorescens*. The isolates of *P. fluorescens* were inoculated in King's B broth and incubated at different temperature ranging from 4 to 45°C (i.e. 4°, 10°, 15°, 20°, 25°, 30°, 35°, 40° and 45°) and growth was measured turbidometrically. The temperature, 30°C (1.770) was found suitable for the growth than other temperature tested after 48 hr of incubation. Mannitol, dextrose, starch and fructose were added individually in the medium to see carbon utilization by the isolates of *Pseudomonas*. It preferred carbon through mannitol (0.701) and fructose (0.670) and found to grow after 96 hr of incubation. Dextrose (0.416) as a carbon source recorded less growth and it was not preferred by all isolates. Among the four nitrogen sources (*viz.*, ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulphate, ammonium chloride and urea), ammonium nitrate (0.930) supported maximum growth in all Pf isolates after 96 hr of incubation.

Key words : Temperature, carbon and nitrogen sources, *P. fluorescens*

INTRODUCTION

Pseudomonas fluorescens is a soil microorganism living in symbiosis with fungi and plant and is considered as a plant growth promoting rhizobacterium. It promotes the growth of the fungal hyphae, which provide plant roots with nitrogen and phosphate sources. For instance, it has been found that the total P content in plants inoculated with the arbuscular mycorrhizal fungus *Glomus caledonium* was higher in the presence than in the absence of *P. fluorescens*. Due to its high versatility with respect to carbon and nitrogen sources, *P. fluorescens* can be used for a broad range of applications. It can be used in a wide variety of organic compounds as carbon sources or as electron donors for energy generation and it has the ability to use nitrate or nitrite as terminal electron acceptor when oxygen is not available in its environment. Temperature influences the rate of growth, metabolism and morphological characters of the bacterium. *P. fluorescens* can thrive under wide range of temperature and there is minimum, opti-

mum and maximum for each of the species and even for particular strain. In order to investigate the physiology of *P. fluorescens*, aerobic cultivations have been performed on different temperature, nitrogen and carbon sources.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Soil samples were collected from rhizosphere of citrus in Vidarbha region (Table 1). Thirty isolates were obtained through serial dilution using King's B medium. Colonies that showed fluorescence were selected and further purified. Out of thirty *Pseudomonas fluorescens* Pf only effective fourteen Pf isolates were selected for study.

Fourteen isolates of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* were inoculated in King's B broth and incubated different temperature ranging from 4° to 45°C (i.e. 4°, 10°, 15°, 20°, 25°, 30°, 35°, 40°, and 45°) to find out optimum temperature for the growth. The growth was recorded at the end of 48 hr incubation and optical density was measured with the help of spectrophotometer at 620 nm.

Carbon sources (*viz.*, mannitol, dextrose, starch and

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fructose) and nitrogen sources (*viz.*, ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulphate, ammonium chloride and urea) were incorporated in basal media (Ashthana and Hawker's medium) on the basis of molecular weight and inoculated with fourteen isolates of *P. fluorescens*. Optical density was measured at the end of 24, 48 and 96 hr of incubation at 620 nm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

An experiment was conducted to know the requirement of temperature for growth of different isolates and the data are presented in Table 2. Differences

Table 1 : *Pseudomonas fluorescens* isolates obtained from soil samples of Citrus orchards in Vidarbha region.

Location District	Soil samples collected	Isolates no
Akola	Akola	Pf ₁
	Akola	Pf ₄
	Akot	Pf ₅
	Akot	Pf ₆
	Akoli Jahagir	Pf ₉
	Akoli Jahagir	Pf ₁₀
Amravati	Warud	Pf ₁₄
	Warud	Pf ₁₅
	Warud	Pf ₁₆
	Amravati	Pf ₁₈
Nagpur	RFRS Katol	Pf ₁₉
	RFRS Katol	Pf ₂₀
	Savandri	Pf ₂₅
	Nagpur	Pf ₃₀

among the isolates were significant. 4 temperature of 30°C was found to be favorable for maximum growth of Pf₁ (1.803), Pf₉ (1.803), Pf₁₀ (1.723), Pf₁₄ (1.966), Pf₁₈ (1.899), Pf₁₉ (1.915), Pf₂₆ (2.004) and Pf₃₀ (1.685), where as, 25°C supported maximum growth of Pf₅ (1.931), Pf₆ (1.985), Pf₁₅ (1.482), Pf₁₆ (1.755) and for Pf₂₀ (1.793) and only one isolate P₄ (1.586) found to sustain in 35°C temperature for better growth. Less growth was recorded in case of all the isolates when incubated at 4°, 10°, 15°, 20°, 40°, and 45°C. Thus, 25°C and 30°C temperature supported excellent growth of all the isolates. All fourteen isolates differed significantly in their relative growth indicating that each isolate had an ability to grow at specific temperature. Anonymous (2007) stated that optimal temperature for growth of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* are 25-30°C.

Present findings corroborate with these results. Similar observations also observed by Guillou and Guespin-Michel (1996).

The experiment was also conducted to study the ability of different isolates to utilize carbon as an essential element from different carbon sources and data are presented in Table 3. Mannitol was found to support the maximum growth in isolates Pf₉ (1.140) followed by Pf₁₆ (0.958) and Pf₁₈ (0.945). Least growth was observed in Pf₆ (0.250). Fructose was found to support the maximum growth in

Table 2. Growth of different isolates of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* using King's B broth at different temperatures at 48 hr

Isolates No.	Temperature Growth (OD at 620 nm)								
	4	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
Pf ₁	0.515	0.674	0.773	1.339	1.735	1.803	1.347	1.054	0.850
Pf ₄	0.254	0.324	0.54	1.021	1.400	1.576	1.586	1.304	0.855
Pf ₅	0.262	0.319	0.645	1.383	1.931	1.915	1.671	1.371	0.956
Pf ₆	0.136	0.188	0.264	1.305	1.985	1.855	1.715	1.234	0.642
Pf ₉	0.452	0.573	0.869	0.895	1.408	1.830	1.376	1.055	0.812
Pf ₁₀	0.547	0.585	0.796	1.264	1.492	1.723	1.611	1.134	0.821
Pf ₁₄	0.785	0.804	1.064	1.565	1.417	1.966	1.808	1.256	0.931
Pf ₁₅	0.498	0.569	0.570	0.987	1.482	1.201	1.055	0.839	0.525
Pf ₁₆	0.298	0.392	0.566	1.378	1.755	1.656	1.380	1.056	0.843
Pf ₁₈	0.465	0.515	0.586	1.003	1.793	1.899	1.422	1.020	0.953
Pf ₁₉	0.256	0.333	0.430	1.296	1.840	1.915	1.565	1.042	0.863
Pf ₂₀	0.356	0.462	0.758	1.578	1.793	1.756	1.758	1.137	0.803
Pf ₂₆	0.750	0.921	1.099	1.366	1.731	2.004	1.920	1.504	1.063
Pf ₃₀	0.195	0.234	0.496	1.187	1.639	1.685	1.455	0.832	0.825
Mean	0.412	0.492	0.662	1.255	1.672	1.770	1.548	1.131	0.839
S.E.(m)±	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.06	0.06	0.14	0.05	0.05	0.05
CD(P=0.01)	0.26	0.23	0.45	0.20	0.21	0.46	0.17	0.18	0.17

Table 3 : Effect of different carbon sources on growth of different isolates of *P. fluorescens*,

Isolates no	Growth (at 620 nm)											
	Fructose			Mannitol			Starch			Dextrose		
	24 hr	48 hr	96 hr	24 hr	48 hr	96 hr	24 hr	48 hr	96 hr	24 hr	48 hr	96 hr
Pf ₁	0.392	0.552	0.730	0.265	0.356	0.417	0.410	0.448	0.926	0.83	0.464	0.496
Pf ₄	0.204	0.269	0.362	0.183	0.352	0.664	0.099	0.163	0.168	0.125	0.161	0.233
Pf ₅	0.166	0.316	0.436	0.242	0.304	0.543	0.231	0.272	0.401	0.340	0.436	0.478
Pf ₆	0.156	0.286	0.376	0.099	0.191	0.250	0.077	0.105	0.185	0.111	0.146	0.206
Pf ₉	0.709	0.837	0.981	0.730	0.861	1.140	0.326	0.418	0.72	0.306	0.346	0.368
Pf ₁₀	0.554	0.788	0.986	0.334	0.521	0.805	0.391	0.454	0.505	0.398	0.511	0.528
Pf ₁₄	0.234	0.438	0.581	0.395	0.463	0.628	0.263	0.283	0.288	0.064	0.146	0.151
Pf ₁₅	0.258	0.271	0.485	0.139	0.194	0.675	0.085	0.110	0.134	0.069	0.109	0.159
Pf ₁₆	0.549	0.734	0.947	0.446	0.523	0.958	0.548	0.651	0.803	0.461	0.564	0.603
Pf ₁₈	0.333	0.631	0.854	0.264	0.399	0.945	0.273	0.419	0.597	0.371	0.223	0.488
Pf ₁₉	0.335	0.467	0.559	0.389	0.456	0.829	0.324	0.403	0.409	0.301	0.434	0.499
Pf ₂₀	0.347	0.520	0.616	0.364	0.428	0.601	0.411	0.519	0.701	0.376	0.381	0.446
Pf ₂₅	0.403	0.457	0.643	0.310	0.397	0.522	0.511	0.534	0.631	0.498	0.519	0.596
Pf ₃₀	0.256	0.513	0.817	0.337	0.465	0.836	0.563	0.594	0.698	0.274	0.472	0.573
Mean	0.350	0.506	0.670	0.321	0.422	0.701	0.322	0.384	0.494	0.291	0.351	0.416
S.E.(m)±	0.042	0.045	0.035	0.032	0.036	0.046	0.031	0.033	0.036	0.030	0.042	0.043
CD	0.145	0.152	0.114	0.106	0.114	1.059	0.119	0.122	0.130	0.110	0.146	0.148

(P=0.01)

Table 4 : Utilization of different nitrogen sources by different isolates of *P. fluorescens*

Isolates no	Nitrogen sources (Optical Density at 620nm)			
	Ammonium nitrate	Ammonium sulphate	Ammonium chloride	Urea
Pf ₁	1.064	0.434	0.182	0.808
Pf ₄	1.158	0.256	0.250	0.319
Pf ₅	1.043	0.178	0.392	0.254
Pf ₆	0.316	0.134	0.079	0.076
Pf ₉	0.892	0.301	0.332	0.565
Pf ₁₀	1.032	0.227	0.343	0.426
Pf ₁₄	1.437	1.451	0.653	0.710
Pf ₁₅	0.154	0.149	0.172	0.206
Pf ₁₆	0.598	0.434	0.295	0.483
Pf ₁₈	1.047	0.263	0.267	0.473
Pf ₁₉	0.779	0.352	0.268	0.435
Pf ₂₀	1.007	0.577	0.473	0.878
Pf ₂₆	1.331	0.346	0.592	0.760
Pf ₃₀	1.157	0.960	0.442	0.526
Mean	0.930	0.433	0.338	0.494
S.E.(m)±	0.052	0.055	0.051	0.057
CD	0.174	0.185	0.169	0.192

(P=0.01)

Pf₁, Pf₉, Pf₁₀, Pf₁₆ and Pf₁₈. Isolate Pf₁ (0.926) showed the maximum growth in starch and Pf₁₅ (0.134) showed the minimum growth. Dextrose was found to be less effective for supporting the growth and the optical density ranged between 0.151 to 0.603.

The isolates preferred carbon through mannitol and fructose & Dextrose as a carbon source recorded less growth and it was not preferred for growth of all the isolate. Maximum growth was observed in mannitol and fructose which might be due to the ability of the isolate to preferentially utilize carbon form these sources as compared to other sources. Jayaswal *et al.*, (1990) reported that the best source of carbon was mannitol for *Pseudomonas* strain RJ2. There findings are similar to the results of the present investigation.

Inorganic nitrogen also plays an important role in reproduction of bacteria. Data presented in Table 4 indicated that among different nitrogen sources ammonium nitrate supported maximum growth of all isolates after 96 hr of incubation. Isolates Pf₁₄ exhibited (1.437) OD followed by Pf₂₆ (1.331) and less optical density observed in Pf₁₅ (0.154) in ammonium nitrate. Isolates Pf₁ (0.808) exhibited maximum optical density in urea. In general minimum growth was obtained when nitrogen was provided through ammonium chloride i.e. between the range of 0.076 to 0.653.

Wide range of optical density among the isolate within the same source of nitrogen might have resulted in variability. *P. fluorescens* has different af-

finites towards the different nitrogen sources and it is known that ammonia is the preferred nitrogen source, inhibiting the utilization of other nitrogen sources (Betlach *et al.*, 1981). Abouseoud *et al.* (2008) found that ammonium nitrate as a best nitrogen source for production of biosurfactant by *P. fluorescens*. Rosenthal (1974) observed ammonium ion as sole nitrogen source for multiplication of *Pseudomonas*. The present results also corroborate with previous finding.

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