Original Research Article

Production of Pectin from Orange Peel by using *Trichosporon penicillatum*

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**Abstract**

The aim of this research is the production of pectin from orange peel by using *Trichosporon penicillatum*. Now-a-days, Pectin production has a market potential value on the basis of the growth prospectus of its users industries. Citrus peel of various origins contains 20-50% pectin on the dry matter basis. But, specifically orange peel contain the white spongy albedo in major content which contain 80-90% an appreciable amount of pectin without macerating the peel by using microbial method. Geotrichumklebanii ATCC 42397 Named *Trichosporon penicillatum* produces PPase-SE, an endopolyalacturonase with pectin releasing activity. It has the increasing energy demand on utilization of renewable agricultural and industrial waste. Different parameter was done for the maximum yield of pectin and it was about 6.50 gm/100ml at 40°C and incubation period of 24 hrs was the best. Pectin assay was done by using TLC technique which shows Rf value of about 0.74. So orange peel waste was the best substrate for production of pectin gives highest yield which minimize the cost of production to improve the production level.

**Keywords**

Microbial extraction, orange peel, *Trichosporon penicillatum*, TLC technique

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**Introduction**

Pectin substances are complex high molecular mass glycoside macro molecules found in higher plants. They are present in primary cell wall and are the major components of middle lamellae, a thin extracellular adhesive layer formed between the walls of adjacent young cells. In short, they are largely responsible for the structural integrity and cohesion of plant tissues.

Pectin is a complex polysaccharide consisting mainly of esterified D-galacturonic acid resides in an alpha-(1-4) chain. The acid groups along the chain are largely esterified with methoxy groups in the natural product. There can also be acetyl groups present on the free hydroxyl groups (Helene M, Canteri-Schemin et al., 2005) (Fig. 1).

Pectin is found in fruit and vegetables and mainly prepared from 'waste' citrus peel. It makes up between about 2% and 35% of plant cell walls and is important for plant growth, regulation of ion and water exchange, development, and defense.

Pectin is a complex set of polysaccharide having properties such as gelation and emulsion stabilization which make it useful in manufacture of food, cosmetics and medicine.
It is normal constituent of food and may therefore be safely ingested. It is also used as thickening agent for sauces, ketchups, flavoured syrups and texturing agent in fruit flavoured milk deserts (Girdhari Lal et al., 1998). There is increasing evidence that dietary pectin may have some health benefits beyond its role as a useful dietary fiber. Small pectin fragments have a positive effect as an anti-cancer agent as they bind to and inhibit the various actions of the pro-metastatic protein galectin-3 (E.G. Maxwell et al., 2012). Consumption of pectin at least 6g/day is necessary to have significant effect in cholesterol reduction. Amount less than 6g/day of pectin are not effective (Ginter et al., 1979). Citrus albedo of citrus fruits like apple pomace, lemon pulp, orange pulp are rich in pectic substance. (Fox, 1984) out of that, orange peel contain more thick albedo, which retain more pectin production by using *Trichosporon penicillatum* (Geotrichum klebahnii ATCC 42397) yeast like fungus produces propectinase an endopolygalacturonase with pectin releasing activity. Muralikrishnan and Tharanathan (1994) extracted 1.47-5.37% pectin by soaking pulse husk in HCL and EDTA solution at 70°C. (Miyazaki and Terada, 1974). In this process, we attempted pectin production by using *T. penicillatum*, orange peel as raw material and in so doing developed a new microbial method which can extract pectin from citrus peel without macerating the peel.

**Processing of orange peel**

Peel waste were collected from local vendors. It was thoroughly washed then sliced and sliced into small pieces and sprayed on trays and then sieved pieces of waste fermented in tray and autoclaved at 15 lbs for 20 mins before use.

**Fermentation condition**

Fermentation media contains NaH₂PO₄ 5%, K₂HPO₄ 12% and MgSO₄.7H₂O 0.3%, CaCl₂ 0.5% and Ammonium Sulfate 1% and Sterile Pieces Of Orange Peel Were added into it and Flask were Incubated at 300°C for 24 hr in Incubator shaker at 120 RPM, medium were filtered and filtrate in which 1:3 ethanol were added as a solvent extraction and precipitated pectin was collected by centrifugation at 3000 RPM for 10 min at 28°C and extract was obtained and washed with ethanol and dried.

**Estimation of pectin**

TLC slide was prepared with silica gel and propanol: ammonia: water (10:1:1) were taken in beaker as a solvent system. Extract was spotted on TLC plate and allowed to stand for 20 min and the slide was inserted into the solvent containing beaker and iodine crystals were sprayed on beaker and allow it stand for 10 min and calculate the Rf value. During the pectin assay, Rf value was calculated that is

\[
Rf = \frac{\text{Distance spot travels}}{\text{Distance solvent travels}}
\]

Where Rf is Retardation factor value which was found to be 0.74 and compare the standard Rf value of pectin is 0.81 by TLC technique.

**Materials and Methods**

**Organism and inoculum preparation**

Fungal strain of *Trichosporon penicillatum* was procured from NCL PUNE (NATIONAL CHEMICAL LABORATORY), organisms maintained on potato dextrose agar at 40°C and loopfull of spores was used as inoculum for further use.
The Rf value was found to be 0.74 which was compared with standard Rf value of pectin.

**Results and Discussion**

Effect of different parameters on pectin production.

Strain grew well in the extract of citrus peel as a nutrient source. In pectin production, optimum temperature and incubation period gives maximum yield of pectin production in broth as shown in Table 1 and 2.

Extraction was carried at different time below graph represents maximum yield of pectin at 24 hr. Temperature has been observed to be one of the major process variables affecting the production of pectin, although microorganism grew well between 25 and 37°C. Attempt of 400c was chosen as the best temperature for the extraction.

The effect of time was examined, during time variable pectin began to appear after 5 hour and increased with time after 20 to 25 hr, the amount of pectin extracted reach. This was analyzed at every 24 hr time intervals and maximum yield was found to be at 24 hrs. after 24 hr Graph 2 represents there was gradual increase in the yield up to 96 hrs, this might be on the basis of consumption of nutrients. Watermelon rind pectin extraction was investigated using acid and enzymatic extraction, acid extraction was conducted using nitric acid and precipitated with isopropanol. Extraction conditions of 45minutes, pH 1.65 and 0.258g/ml solid to liquid ratio resulted in pectin yield of 20.02% (Mary Campbell Oklahoma State University, December 2006). Rao and Miani (1999) reported 18.4% yield in orange mandarin peels. Lotha et al., reported 6-8% pectin from kinnow. Pectin in diets of human and lab animals has been shown to increase the excretion of lipids, cholesterol, bile acids and reduce serum cholesterol levels. Pectin operates by binding with bile acids thereby decreasing cholesterol and fat absorption.

There is also evidence that regular use of pectin may lessen the severity of diabetes (siddappa and Tandon, 1998).

**Table.1** Effect of Temperature on pectin production by *T. penicillatum*

| Temperature | Pectin Yield in gm/100ML |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 30          | 4.30                      |
| 37          | 4.00                      |
| 40          | 6.50                      |
| 45          | 3.70                      |

**Table.2** Effect of Incubation period on pectin production by *T. penicillatum*

| Incubation period (time) | Pectin Yield in gm/100ML |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 24hr                     | 5.30                      |
| 48hr                     | 2.40                      |
| 72hr                     | 3.30                      |
| 96hr                     | 4.40                      |
**Fig. 1** Structure of pectin

**Graph. 1** Yield of pectin production at effect of different temperature

![Graph 1](image_url1)

**Graph. 2** Yield of pectin production at effect of different incubation period

![Graph 2](image_url2)
Extraction was carried out at different temperature and above graph represents maximum yield of production at 400°C as shown in graph 1.

In conclusion, the microbial extraction method was efficient in the yield of pectin whereas orange peel waste was the best substrate for production of pectin. For the highest yield of pectin suitable time and temperature was found to be 400°C for 24 hrs. Use of waste may minimize the cost of production and optimization may help to marginally improve the production level.

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