

April 30, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17408-review.doc).

**Title:** Effect of agitation speed on the morphology of *Aspergillus niger* HFD5A-1 hyphae and its pectinase production in submerged fermentation

**Author:** Darah Ibrahim, Haritharan Weloosamy, Lim Sheh-Hong\*

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Biological Chemistry*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 17408

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

Reviewer comment 1:

In this paper, Darah et al report the effect of agitation speed on the morphology of *Aspergillus niger* HFD5A-1 hyphae and its pectinase production in submerged fermentation. The findings are interesting. However, I have several concerns.

1) The culture periods for all figures should be clearly described; cultured for 10 days (page 5, line 6) or 6 days (page 9, line 16)?

Corrected. The culture periods for all figures were 6 days cultivation time.

2) Fig. 1: Statistical analysis should be performed, and the P values should be described. The time-courses of the pectinase production and the growth under the optimal conditions should be presented. The authors describe that the analysis was performed every 48 h (page 5, line 6). In addition, the number of the independent experiments performed should be described.

Corrected, please refer to the manuscript.

In our previous study (data not shown) the 6 days cultivation times is the optimal cultivation time. Hence in this manuscript we would like to report at 6 days cultivation time with different agitation speed can affect the production of pectinase and have a great impact on the morphology of *A. niger* HFD5A-1. Therefore, we have removed the phrase ‘...analysis was performed every 48 h.’ from our manuscript.

3) The authors demonstrate that the agitation speed at 150 rpm is optimal for the pectinase production as well as the growth of *Aspergillus niger* HFD5A-1. How about other types of fungi? Discussion is required.

Discussion was added, please refer to the manuscript.

4) Fig. 5: The pictures of the fungi cultured at 150 rpm should be also presented. In addition, some explanation is

required for easy understanding of the pictures.

Agreed with your suggestion. However, the picture of the fungi cultured at 150 rpm is in the preparing process and not able to present currently. Thus, we are removed all the Fig 5 in the manuscript.

5) Careful proof-reading is required. For example, “could be resulted” should be “could result”. (page 2, line 10)  
Corrected.

Reviewer comment 2:

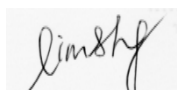
The paper Demonstrated que the agitation speed Affected the morphological characteristics of the fungal hyphae / mycelia of *Aspergillus niger* HFD5A-1 by altering external as well as internal Their cell structures. The finding Indicated que exposure to higher shear stress with an Increasing agitation speed Could be resulted in lower biomass yields as well as pectinase production by *Aspergillus niger* HFD5A-1. The manuscript has interesting informations and suggest the aceiye the manuscript. However, I suggest a review of English.

We revised the **WHOLE** manuscript carefully to avoid English language errors.

All the corrections on the manuscript have highlighted yellow in colour. The manuscript has been resubmitted to your journal. We look forward to your positive response.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Biological chemistry*.

Sincerely yours,



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