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GAMMA RAY INDUCED EFFECTS ON NEW SPECIES OF (HM775973.1GI:302495616) ISOLATED FROM EGYPTIAN SOIL

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Abstract: A new Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) isolated from Egyptian soil was exposed to increasing doses of gamma radiation up to 10 kG_y and this isolate showed high antimicrobial activities against bacteria, yeast, and fungi. The lethal dose of studied isolate was 5KG_y. Dose level of 3.5 kG_y enhanced the antimicrobial activity, pigmentation, melanin production, utilization of carbon sources of this isolate and also increased their sodium chloride tolerance from 5 to 8% either at first or second generation after irradiation process. Dose level 3.5 kG_y showed decreasing of the amount of DNA in both first and second generations also.

Key Words: Gamma Radiation, Streptomyces sp (AEFO2), Antimicrobial activity.

INTRODUCTION

Actinobacteria are a group of Gram-positive bacteria. They were all believed to have high guanine and cytosine content in their DNA (Ventura et *al.*, 2007). The genus *Streptomyces* is the dominant among actinobacteria where, they are responsible for the production of about 50% of the discovered bioactive secondary metabolites (Berdy, 2005), antibiotics (Strohl, 2004), antitumor agents (Cragg *et al.*, 2005), immunosuppressive agents (Mann, 2001) and enzymes (Oldfield *et al.*, 1998).

Actinomycetes and their bioactive compounds show antibacterial and antimicrobial activity against various pathogens and multi drug resistant pathogens e.g. Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci, Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus, Shigella dysenteriae, Klebsiella sp. and Pseudomonas aeruginosa etc. (Servin et al., 2008; Bhatnagar and Kim, 2011).

Streptomyces are obligate aerobes, chemoorganotrops that need only an organic carbon source (such as glucose, starch or glycerol), an inorganic nitrogen source, and a few mineral salts for growth. However, faster growth can be obtained in complex media containing, for instance, yeast extract, or other organic nitrogen sources. Trace elements contained in tap water are generally sufficient, but addition of iron manganese, zinc and ions can be beneficial (Gottlieb and Shirling, 1967).

Streptomyces generally required a good supply of free water for growth but unable to grow at high osmotic potentials. However, some soil isolates were able to grow in media at high osmotic potentials and a few strains can grow at 13% (w/v) NaCl salinity (Tresner et al., 1968).

On solid medium a spore germinates, grows vegetatively as a substrate mycelium and then develops into an aerial mycelium, which segments into chains of spores (Ensign, 1978; Chater, 1984). The potential usefulness of scanning electron microscopy in studies of actinomycetes was demonstrated by Williams and Davies (1967).

Ionizing radiation was the first agent shown to be mutagenic (Muller, 1927). Also, this type of radiation has been studied as mutagenic agent by Wong and Smith (1978). Ultraviolet and gamma-irradiated actinomycete spores yield high proportions of mutant colonies, and that some of the changes occur as sectors (Newcombe, 1953).

Early experiments showed that the effect of ionizing radiation on microorganisms was by their direct and indirect effect, and the biological effect of radiation is amplified by the oxygen this is always present in the medium (Yarmonenko, 1988). Ionizing radiation induces mutagenesis by generated reactive oxygen species (ROS) that react with DNA, RNA and their precursors leading to damage of nucleic acids and nucleotides by detectable deletions, major rearrangements and into point mutation (Huang et al., 2007; Seifried et al., 2007). The gamma radiation induced mutation by direct and/or indirect DNA damaged by formation of a reactive species such as OH. There is evidence indicating that ROS can react with DNA and cause mutation (Hei et al., 1997).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A new Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) (HM775973.1GI:302495616), isolated from Egyptian soils and identified by El Shobaky et al., (2010), (recorded at Genbank), exposed to increasing doses of gamma radiation up to 10 kG_y. The physiological





properties and the amount of DNA of our isolate were studied at dose 3.5KG_y in both first and second generation.

Irradiation process: Co-60 gamma Indian chamber 400 irradiator source located at National Center for Radiation Research and Technology (NCRRT) Nasr City, Cairo-Egypt was used for irradiation of the spore suspension. The dose rate of this source at the time of experiment was 1.63 kG_y / hour (Moussa *et al.*, 2005).

Morphological properties

The morphology of spore chain of the studied isolate was examined using slide culture technique (Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology, 1989). After growth, the slide was taken, left in air to dry, and then examined under light microscope.

The spore surface ornamentation of the studied isolate was examined by the spore-print technique (Williams and Davies, 1967) applied on the prepared materials for scanning electron microscope (Jeol JSM LV 5500).

Antagonistic properties

The antimicrobial properties of the actinobacterial isolate were studied against a number of test organisms comprising dual culture method (Hamdali *et al.*, 2008).

a) Bacteria:

Gram-negative: Escherichia coli, Klebsiella, Shigella, Erwinia carotovora, Proteus vulgaris and Pseudomonas aueroginosa

Gram-positive: Staphylococcus epidermidis, Streptococcus pyogenes and Staphylococcus aureus

(Obtained from Botany department, Faculty of science and Plant Disease Department, Faculty of agriculture, Mansoura University.)

b) Yeast:

Candida boidinii NRRL 2332 (obtained from culture collection center, Ain Shams University)

c) Fungi:

Fusarium oxysporum, Fusarium solani, Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus ochroceus, Trichothecium sp and Penicillium purpurogenum

(Obtained from Plant Disease Department, Faculty of agriculture, Mansoura University).

The actinomycete isolate was grown on starchnitrate agar medium. After 6 days of incubation at 30° C, agar discs were cut off by a sterilized cork borer and transferred to the surface of agar plates freshly inoculated with the test organisms separately. The

Physiological Properties of Streptomyces sp (HM775973.1GI:302495616)

A) Utilization of different carbon sources: The ability of isolates to utilize different carbon sources (Sucrose, D-Fructose, Raffinose, Maltose, L-lactose, Mannose, D+ xylose, L-Arabinose, Manitol, Sorbitol) was studied on Gauze No. 1 as a basal liquid medium (Devoid of starch). The tested carbon sources were sterilized through bacteriological filter (0.450 µm, not by heat), then added separately at a concentration of 2% (w/v). Test tubes containing 2 ml of these media were inoculated separately with spore suspension of the studied isolates and incubated at 28°C. The ability of certain strain to use a carbon source was determined by comparison of its growth intensity, recorded after 7 and 14 days of incubation, with that on the positive (glucose) and negative (no carbon source) controls (Shirling and Gottlieb, 1966).

B) Production of melanin pigments: The production of melanin (or melanoid) pigments was tested on peptone-yeast iron agar, tyrosine agar and tryptone-yeast broth. Each medium was inoculated with every isolate and incubated for 7 days at 28°C. The cultures were examined after 24-48 hours and the formation of diffusible brown to black pigments was considered as a positive reaction (Shirling and Gottlieb, 1966).

C) Hydrolysis of starch: Spore suspension of the isolate was streaked over the surface of starchnitrate agar plates and incubated at 28°C. The amylolytic activity of isolates was tested after 3, 5, 7 and 14 days by pouring Gram's iodine on the surface of the culture. The presence of clear zones around the growth was considered to indicate positive activity (Shirling and Gottlieb, 1966).

D) NaCl tolerance: Sodium chloride tolerance determined by distributing starch-nitrate agar) containing different concentration of NaCl (1-12%) in sterile petri dishes. The selected organisms were streaked and incubated at 28°C for 7-14 days. After incubation period, the growth of tested organisms was examined (Kutzner, 1981).

E) Cellulose-decomposition: Test tubes containing strips (20 X 100mm) of Whatman filter paper No. 1 (cellulose source) and10 ml of Hutchinson liquid

medium were inoculated with the studied isolate. The inoculation was carried out by transferring a loop of spore suspension of the actinobacteria to the surface of the filter paper, as near as possible to the level of the liquid medium. After 15, 21, 30 and 45 days of incubation at 28°C, the filter paper strips were examined. The destruction or rupture of paper was considered to indicate positive ability of the organism to decompose cellulose (Shirling and Gottlieb, 1966).

F) Casein hydrolysis: Agar plates of starch casein agar were spot-inoculated with each isolate and incubated at 28°C. The appearances of clear zone around growth indicate positive casein hydrolysis (Mansour, 1972). After incubation (7-14days), zones of clearance were noted and confirmed by flooding the plates with acid mercuric chloride.

G) Coagulation and peptonization of milk: Test tubes containing sterile defatted milk broth were inoculated with the studied isolate and incubated at 28° C, the degree of either coagulation or liquefaction of milk, type of growth and pigmentation were recorded after 3, 7 and 14 days of incubation (Nonomura, 1974).

H) Gelatin liquefaction: Test tubes containing 5 mL of gelatin-peptone broth were sterilized and inoculated by dipping a needle carrying the spores into the slants containing gelatin medium. The slants were incubated at 28°C for 3, 7, a 14 days. After incubation, the culture was put in a refrigerator for few hours and the results were recorded at room temperature. The degree of liquefaction of gelatin was determined by comparison with non-inoculated medium (Nonomura, 1974).

Extraction and quantification of DNA (using Nano drop instrument) from Streptomyces sp AEFO2 (HM775973.1Gl:302495616). The standard phenolchloroform DNA extraction procedure was performed as described in Massana *et al.,* (1997).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Exposure of microbial cell to ionizing radiation set off a chain of reactions giving rise to physiological changes and antimicrobial activities. These changes depend on the absorbed does. So, radiation presents an additional stress to the cells, which tends to disturb their organization. As a consequence of this biochemical damage, a great variety of changes can be observed in irradiated cells, some are temporary and other is permanent. Difference in or modification to the probability that a cell will survive a particular dose of radiation is measured in terms of differences or changes in radiation sensitivity or radiation resistance (Tallentire, 1967). Early experiments showed that ionizing radiation kills microorganisms through their direct and indirect effect. Moreover, the biological effect of radiation is amplified by the oxygen always present in the medium (Yarmonenko, 1988). A variety of heritable changes affecting colony morphology and color are induced in a *Streptmnyces* sp. by exposure of the spores to ultraviolet and gamma rays according to Newcombe (1953). The effect of different increasing doses of gamma radiation on the studied isolate indicated that the lethal dose of this isolate was 5 KG_y. So, the antimicrobial activity was studied at (0.5–4.5 kG_y), and the other properties (morphological and physiological) studied only at the dose of 3.5 KG_y the does that showing the highest antimicrobial activity.

Morphological properties

Morphology of spore chain: The spore chain morphology is recti flexibiles (RF.) when examined under light microscope, but there was no distinct difference between irradiated sample and nonirradiated one. That may mean there was no effect of gamma ray at the dose 3.5 KG_y on the spore chain morphology of Streptomyces sp (AEFO2).



Figure 1: Morphology of spore chain of *Streptomyces* sp AEFO2 (X1200)

The spore surface ornamentation: The spore surface ornamentation appears smooth shape before and after irradiation but some deformations in the chain of conidia might happen for example; some spores appeared elongated and compressed in the middle to form bone shape and others enlarged in size (fig. 2).

On the other hand, increasing doses of gamma radiation increase the pigmentation of the organism either in the first or in the second generation. Fig. 3 showing pigmentation at the dose 3.5 KG_y for example. Accepted with this result physically induced mutations of *Aspergillus terrus* strain isolated and identified from Saudi Arabia were studied by exposing the conidia of this fungus to different doses of gamma rays resulted in the induction of autotrophic and color mutants of conidia of A. terrus (Mutwakil, 2011).



Figure 2: Scanning electron micrograph of spore surface of *Streptomyces* sp AEFO2. c: control, a: first generation after irradiation, b: second generation after irradiation.



Figure 3: Effect of gamma radiation on the pigmentation of the *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO₂) at the dose of 3.5 KG_y. A: control isolate, B: irradiated isolate.

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	Diameter of inhibition zone by mm, 1 is 1^{st} and 2 is 2^{nd} , dose of radiation by KG _y																			
Dose Pathogen	con	trol	0	•5	1	1	1	•5		2	2	•5		3	3	•5		4	4	1 .5
	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Klebsiella	11.6	11.6	14	11	14	13	-	-	13	14	13	13	12	14	13	15	10	11	11	11
Pseudomonas aueroginosa	12	13	13	-	14	13	16	13	19	16	19	14	19	18	22	19	15	14	10	9
Staphylococcus aureus	12	13	15	-	14	14	14	-	-	13	14	14	-	15	16	16	-	17	-	15
Shigella spp	12.6	13	-	12	-	12	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Escherichia coli	13	12	15	14	15	15	15	14	15	13	15	15	16	15	16	16	14	15	13	12
Streptococcus pyogenies	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erwinia carotovora	13	13	-	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	11	16	11	16	11	16	-	10	-	-
Staphylococcus epidermales	14	14	13	13	13	-	14	13	14	13	15	13	15	15	14	15	15	13	12	13
Proteus valgaries	16	16	12	18	-	18	15	15	13	16	-	16	14	14	15	15	14	13	11	10
Candida boidinii	13	13	-	-	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	14	-	-	-	-
Aspergillus flaviries	14	12	12	12	-	13	12	13	13	11	13	11	13	13	16	14	11	-	11	-
Aspergillus ochroceus	13	13	11	11	13	15	10	15	11	13	14	13	15	15	19	15	12	16	10	10
Trichothecium spp	13.6	13.6	21	-	21	-	15	-	15	-	25	-	25	-	25	-	13	-	-	-
Penicillium purpurgenium	-	-	-	-	8.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fusarium oxysporium	-	-	11	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
Fusarium solani	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Screening of Actinobacterial isolates for antibiotics producing potentiality

The antagonistic action of Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) against several pathogenic organisms based on degree of growth inhibition is summarized in the previous table. The antimicrobial activity of the studied isolate as shown in Table (1) increases with the increase of the radiation dose from $0.5KG_v$ to $3.5 kG_v$ when compared with control, then begin to decrease after the dose of 3.5 kG_{v} which shows the highest antimicrobial activity with Gram+ve bacteria (Staphylococcus aureus), and Grame-ve bacteria (Pseudomonas aueroginosa, Klebsiella, Escherichia coli and Erwinia carotovora) and also with fungi (Aspergillus flaviries and Aspergillus ochroceus). Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) showed high antimicrobial activity with Trichothecium spp at different increasing doses of radiation which appeared only in the first generation but disappeared in the second generation. Previous studies on two thermophilic isolates identified as Streptomyces albaduncus and S. erythogresius showed the highest antimicrobial activities against bacteria,

moulds and yeasts among them. Dose level 2 kG_y enhanced the antimicrobial activity of both isolates either at first or second generation. Relativity higher doses enhanced the utilization of carbon sources and increased their sodium chloride tolerance from 8 to 10% (Moussa *et al.*, 2005). Also the induced mutagenesis using gamma rays proved to be effective in enhancing antifungal metabolites production in three species of *Tichoderma* (Haggag and Mohamed, 2002).

Physiological Properties

A) Utilization of different carbon sources: Utilization of different carbon sources by the studied isolate at 3.5KGy had several changes, some was temporary and other was permanent. Maltose, mannose, sucrose, xylose and manitol represent the highest activity in both 1st & 2nd generations. Also presence of pigmented crystals observed mainly using glucose, maltose and sucrose as Carbone sources Table (2). Previous studies indicated the ability of Streptomyces sp to utilize different carbon sources, and the enhancement of the biosynthesis of deoxyribonucleases of several actinomycetes (Wlachow, 1980). Also the gamma irradiation process enhanced the utilization of different carbon sources in two Streptomyces sp (Moussa et al., 2005).

B) Production of melanin pigments: The radiation process affects in the production of melanin pigment Table (3) at the radiation dose of 3.5KG_v mainly present in solid medium specially peptone yeast extract iron agar Fig.(4) in both first and second generation. Many studies have demonstrated that melanin pigment has been associated with microorganism radio resistance. For example; Alternaria spp was tolerant to doses of up to 4 kG_v because of its ability for melanin production (Mironenko et al., 2000). This agree with our results explained that production of melanin increases with the increase of radio resistance.

Table 2: Effect of dose (3.5KG _y) of gamma radiation c	n
the utilization of different carbon sources	

Sample	Con	trol	1 st gen	eration	2 nd generation			
Carbon sources	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)		
+ve control	+++	+++	++++	++++	++++	++++		
-ve control	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Sucrose	+++	+++	+++	+ ++	++ +	+ ++		
D-Fructose	++	++	++	++	++	++		
Raffinose	++	++	+	+	+	-		
Maltose	++	++	+++	+++	+++	+++		
L-lactose	++	++	++	++	+	+		
L-Arabinose	+	+	++	++	++	++		
Mannose	++	++	+++	+++	+++	+++		
D+ xylose	++	++	+++	+++	++	++		
D- manitole	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++		
Sorbitol	+	+	+	+	+	-		
Starch	++	++	++	++	++	++		

- no growth +: little growth, ++: moderate growth, +++: heavy growth, ++++very heavy growth, 1 and 2 refers to replica.

Table 3: Effect of dose (3.5KGy) of gamma radiation on the production of melanin pigment of studied isolate

Tune of modia	Cor	ntrol	1 st gene	eration	2 nd generation		
rype of media	1	2	1	2	1	2	
Glycerol tyrosine agar	+	+	++	++	++	+ +	
Peptone yeast extract iron agar	+	+	+	++	++	++	
Tryptone yeast extract broth	+	+	+	+	+	+	

+ Less productivity of melanin, ++ high productivity of melanin, 1 and 2 refers to replica.





Figure 4: Effect of dose (3.5KG_y) of gamma radiation on the production of melanin pigment of *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO2) on peptone yeast extract iron agar and Tryptone yeast extract broth, A: control, B: irradiated and C: -ve control.

C) Hydrolysis of starch: The ability of the Streptomyces sp to utilize any substrate depends on its ability for produce enzymes for hydrolyzing this substrate. Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) has the ability to produce amylase enzymes which enhanced by gamma radiation at dose of 3.5KG_y Fig. 5. This result accepted with the results obtained by Moussa *et al.*, (2005).



Figure 5: Starch hydrolysis activity of *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO2), A: control and B: irradiated

Table /	 Effect of 	dose (a	5 KG	on NaCl	tolerance	of Strentom	vces sn l	(AFFO)	
I able 4	• Effect of	uuse),) NUv	I ULI NACI	tolerance	01 Streptom	yles spi	(ALFU2)	

Nacl (con.)	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%
Control	+++	+++	++	++	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 st generation	++++	+++	+++	+++	++	++	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 nd generation	++++	+++	+++	++	++	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

- No growth, +: little growth, ++: moderate growth, +++: heavy growth, ++++very heavy growth.

D) *NaCl tolerance:* The increase in salinity tolerance due to radiation $(3.5KG_y)$ represented in both generations from5% to 8% when compared with control Table (4). Moreover, dose level of 1-4 kG_y increased the tolerance to NaCl. However, in case of 9-12% NaCl negative growth was occur in all treatments. The radiation induced effect on salt tolerance studied isolate is unclear. It is presumably that NaCl acted as salting-out agent that maintains the stability of different enzymes in both isolates (Shevchuk *et al.*, 1987). Moussa *et al.*, (2005) reported that the tolerance to NaCl of two *Streptomyces* sp was released to 8%.

E) Cellulose-decomposition: Data indicated that the Streptomyces sp (AEFO₂) had the ability to cellulose hydrolysis due the production of cellulase enzymes (McCarthy, 1987), also irradiation process indicated that there is no enhancement of productivity of cellulase enzymes Table 5. Alike Moussa *et al.*, (2005), stated that no enhancement of productivity of cellulase enzymes was found on the Streptomyces albaduncus.

Table	5:	Effect	of	dose	(3.5KG _y)	on	Cellulose-
decom							

		•
Sample	1	2
Control	+	+
1 st generation	+	+
2 nd generation	+	+

-, + indicate negative and positive results respectively, 1 and 2 refers to replica.

F) *Casein hydrolysis:* Previous studies indicate that actinomycetes are able to hydrolyze casein (Mohamedin, 1999), and that appeared previously with *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO2) which was able to hydrolyze casein by Caseinase enzyme increased by irradiation process. Does up to 3.5KG_y enhanced the productivity of Caseinase enzyme of the *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO2). *Streptomyces albaduncus* and *S. erythogresius* showed similar result when irradiated by increasing doeses of gamma rays up to 5 KG_y (Moussa et *al.*, 2005).



Figure 6: Increasing of casein hydrolysis activity in the first and second generations of *Streptomyces* sp (AEFO₂)

G) Coagulation and piptonozation of milk: The effect of Streptomyces malvinense nov. on coagulation and peptonization of milk was demonstrated by Cercos (1977). The activity of production of proteolytic enzymes for Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) increased by the irradiation process in both 1st and 2nd generation (Table 6) alike that obtained Moussa *et al.*, (2005).

Table 6: Effect of dose (3.5KGy) on Coagulation and peptonization of milk (production of proteolytic enzymes).

Sample	1	2
Control	+	+
1 st generation	++	++
2 nd generation	++	++

+: moderate growth, ++: heavy growth, 1and 2 refers to replica

H) Gelatin liquefaction: Several actinomycetes had the ability for Gelatin hydrolysis and the others did not. Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) was able to hydrolyze Gelatin substrate and this ability increased by irradiation (Table7).

 Table 7: Effect of dose (3.5KGy) on gelatin liquefaction

sample	1	2
Control	+	++
I st generation	+++	+++
2 nd generation	+++	++

+ Little growth ++: moderate growth, +++: heavy growth, 1and 2 refers to replica

Extraction and quantification of DNA

The total amount of DNA for Streptomyces sp (AEFO2) decreased with the increasing doses of gamma radiation (Table 8). Similarly, Aly (1985) who reported that when *S. lipmani* cell was irradiated with gamma rays the amount of DNA was decreased. Also, all irradiation doses used (0.25-5.0 kGy) decreased the cell DNA content in both *S. albaduncus* and *S. erythogresius* with the exception of dose 2 kGy which increased the cell DNA content (Moussa *et al.*, 2005). That result indicated that DNA may increase or decrease depending on the dose or may also the type of radiation.

Table	8:	Extraction	and	quantification	of	DNA	from
Strept	om	yces sp AEF	02 (H	HM775973.1G:30	249	95616)	

Sample	Amount of DNA (µg/gm fresh weight)
Control	16.18 ½
First generation	5.05 %
Second generation	1.64 %

CONCLUSION

The ionizing radiation like gamma rays make a series of events on various physiological and morphological properties in addition to nucleic acid of the studied actinobacterium strain. So, gamma rays shows potent stress to the actinobacterial cells. AS a result of this, great changes occur to the studied strain Streptomyces sp AEFO2 (HM775973.1G:302495616). The exposure to optimum gamma rays dose level of 3.5 KG_y stimulate antimicrobial activity, pigmentation, melanin production, carbon source utilization (specially maltose and sucrose), NaCl tolerance till 8% and causes decline in DNA amount using nano drop instrument analysis. All of previous results were performed in both first and second generations. So, finally we have a great variety of changes that can be observed in irradiated cells ether temporary or permanent.

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