

Do probiotic dairy starters adapt to vegetable milks?

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Srowing demand for plant-based fermented products...



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Nassima ILLIKOUD

> Well-known dairy probiotic bacteria used as starters

Lactobacillus delbrueckii subsp. bulgaricus



- One of the most used dairy starters
- Fermentation of yogurt and of diverse other fermented products, including cheeses

Propionibacterium freudenreichii



- Modulation of the gut microbiota, and inflammation
- Fermentation of diverse fermented products, including Emmental cheeses.



Little is known about their adaptation to the vegetable substrates



Aim of this study

To investigate the adaptation of these two probiotic bacteria to soymilk by comparison to cow milk.

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Dairy probiotic starters adaptation to soymilk vs bovine milk

L. delbrueckii subsp. *bulgaricus CIRM-BIA1592*



- Bacterial growth, alone and in co-culture with Streptococcus thermophilus CIRM-BIA1345
- Cell morphology
- Proteome composition

P. freudenreichii CIRM-BIA129



- Bacterial growth, alone and in coculture with *Lactobacillus plantarum* CIRM-BIA465
- Cell morphology
- Proteome composition

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LB grew in cow milk. Its growth was enhanced in co-culture with ST



Acidification of bovine milk by LB Faster acidification in co-culture with ST LB did not grow in soy milk, neither alone, nor in coculture with ST



No acidification of soy milk by LB. Faster acidification in co-culture with ST

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L. delbrueckii bulgaricus in soymilk vs bovine milk Cell morphology



Optic microscopy







• Long and straight rods which appear separate

Electron microscopy





Short bacilli comprised within long and curved chains



DAPI staining & Fluorescence microscopy



- Straight rods, with a homogeneous blue fluorescence
- Dots of intense yellow fluorescence
- **Presence of polyphosphate** under the form of granules at both ends of the lactobacilli cells

- Long and curved rods appeared segmented in shorter segments
- No polyphosphate
- DNA blue fluorescence was regularly distributed and compartmented within the long chains.

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DUD Do probiotic dairy starters adapt to vegetable milks?

Club des Bactéries Lactiques - Rennes, 9th June 2022

L. delbrueckii bulgaricus in soymilk vs bovine milk

Proteome composition





L. delbrueckii bulgaricus exhibits different proteomes in soy and in milk

- 185 proteins were differentially expressed:
- \rightarrow 75 were induced and 110 were repressed in soy

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> L. delbrueckii bulgaricus in soymilk vs bovine milk

Proteome composition



Fructose specific phosphotransferase system, fructose2,6-biphosphatase...

Energy production and conversion

Fumarate metabolism

Amino acid transport and metabolism

Branched-chain amino acid

Translation

Ribosomal proteins, amino acid-tRNA ligases

Stress response proteins

Catabolite control protein (CcpA), GreA transcription factor,...

Cell cycle and division

- Soy environment was non optimal for the growth of the yogurt starter *L. delbrueckii* subsp. *bulgaricus*.
- The development of new fermented products, based on soy milk, may require different microbial starters (others strains and/or species) more adapted to this substrate

Ldb CIRM-BIA1592



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→ Collaboration between PF and LP in terms of growth and metabolism in soymilk.

P. freudenreichii in soymilk vs bovine milk Cell morphology



Optic microscopy

 Refringent and shiny aspect around propionibacteria in milk but not in soy





Atomic force microscopy three dimensional amplitude

• Surrounded by an extracellular compound in milk but not in soy





Electron microscopy

 Round-shaped vs in rectangular-shaped with less clearly defined cell wall limits





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> *P. freudenreichii* in soymilk *vs* bovine milk

Proteome composition



PF exhibits different proteomes in soy and in milk

- 374 proteins were differentially expressed:
 - → 175 were induced and 199 were repressed in soy milk

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> P. freudenreichii in soymilk vs bovine milk

Proteome composition



- Carbohydrate transport and metabolism; N=26
 - Glycolysis, pentose phosphate pathway, myo-inositol utilization, ...
- Energy production and conversion, N=38
 - Glycolysis, TCA cycle
- Amino acid transport and metabolism; N=10
- Proteins involved in envelope biogenesis & cell wall construction

Pf CIRM-BIA129



- Translation, ribosomal structure and biogenesis; N=34
- Heat and acid stress proteins
- S-layer proteins

Probiotic abilities may be affected (stress tolerance, persistence, immunomodulation)

In-vivo tests ?

- Changing the fermented substrate may thus significantly affect the fermentative and probiotic properties of dairy starters.
- This needs to be considered when developing new fermented functional foods.

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Ongoing research work (Illikoud et al. in preparation)



Thanks for your attention !

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