

Secretion in *Erwinia chrysanthemi*

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Abstract

Erwinia chrysanthemi which is a causal agent of soft rot disease produces pectinases, cellulases and proteases. These enzymatic activities are secreted in the culture medium.

Pleiotropic mutants of *Erwinia chrysanthemi* were shown to affect the secretion of pectinases and cellulase across the outer membrane, demonstrating that this bacteria possesses a specific transport system for these enzymes.

We are investigating the secretion mechanism in *Erwinia chrysanthemi* using two approaches:

1. Study the region(s) in the sequence of one pectinase gene which are necessary for its transport outside the cell.
2. Characterization of the genes (at least three) which are implicated in the transport system.

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