

**IMPROVEMENT OF CYANOBACTERIA BIOMASS
FOR BIODIESEL PRODUCTION VIA
MOLECULAR GENETIC
TOOLS**

By

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B.Sc. Agric. Sc. (Genetics), Ain Shams Univ. (2008)

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment

Of

The Requirements for the Degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

Agricultural Sciences

(Genetics)

Department of Genetics

Faculty of Agriculture

Ain Shams University

2017

Approval sheet

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ABSTRACT

Spirulina is a prokaryotic algae and one of the most economically important microalgae, especially to produce biodiesel contained polyunsaturated fatty acids with carbon chain length and degree of unsaturation greater than those found in plants and tallow biodiesel, which can be converted into biofuel content. After collecting samples from three different places, we studied the effect of different concentrations for some nutrition elements (nitrogen and carbon) on the productivity of dry biomass and lipids content of *Spirulina*. Nine mutants were obtained using the mutagen EMS and the results showed a compromise between the nine mutants for the dry weight of the output of the biomass and lipids content. The concentration of EMS 0.1% / 30 min was given the highest contents in biomass weight of 0.6003 g, 0.5512 g before and after extraction, respectively, and by a wide margin in lipid content (8%). Biochemical and molecular genetics methods showed an ability to distinguish between the nine mutants and it showed important use in the genetic improvement of microalgae for the possibility obtained on a strain or a genetic combination distinct higher productivity biomass and lipids content, and that will help speed up the use of microalgae in biodiesel production.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First and foremost, my sincerest thanks and gratitude go to Allah, the most beneficent and merciful, for giving me strength and perseverance to finish this work.

I wish to express my sincere thanks and deepest gratitude to **Dr. Samir Abdel Aziz Ibrahim**, Prof. Emeritus of genetics, Fac. of Agric, Ain shams univ.; **Dr. Khaled Abdel Aziz Soliman**, Prof. of Genetics, Fac. of Agric, Ain Shams univ. and **Dr. Ashraf Bakry Abdel Razik**, Prof. of Genetics, Fac. of Agric, Ain Shams univ. for their kind and effective supervising and continuous encouragement during the progress of this study.

Deep thanks to **Dr. Mahmoud Saker**, Prof. and head of Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, for his sincere helping and encouragement during the progress of this study.

Many thanks to the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology for my candidacy on scholarship in the field of bioenergy production *via* molecular genetics, and provide the grant with financial resources, to complete the training on basic skills; skills of scientific research and kindly training in specific field, and to study of master's degree, with project of Scientists for Next Generation.

Finally, many thanks and appreciation are to all the staff members; and all the postgraduate students of Ain Shams Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology branch of faculty of Agriculture (ACGEB), especially **Hamies Baher** for helping me to accomplish this work.

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