

# Biosurfactant and virulence factors are main tools of *Bacillus cereus* surviving

## Abstract

*Bacillus cereus* is well known group, isolated from many places in the world, even from fish in some cases, has the ability to produce ploy peptides which related to food poisoning due to related with genetic of *B. cereus* known as virulence factor, also can produce active material as an action of enzymes, considered as a tool in biodegradation called biosurfactant, Biosurfactant found when oil and nitrogen is found, that mean virulence factors and biosurfactant found in same time especially inside human intestine. Biosurfactant can degrade chine of fats in hydrocarbons and make an emulsion of water and oil, there for *B. cereus* group use it as resources of energy.

**Keywords:** *Bacillus cereus*, virulence factor, biosurfactant, biodegradation, nutrients and food poisoning

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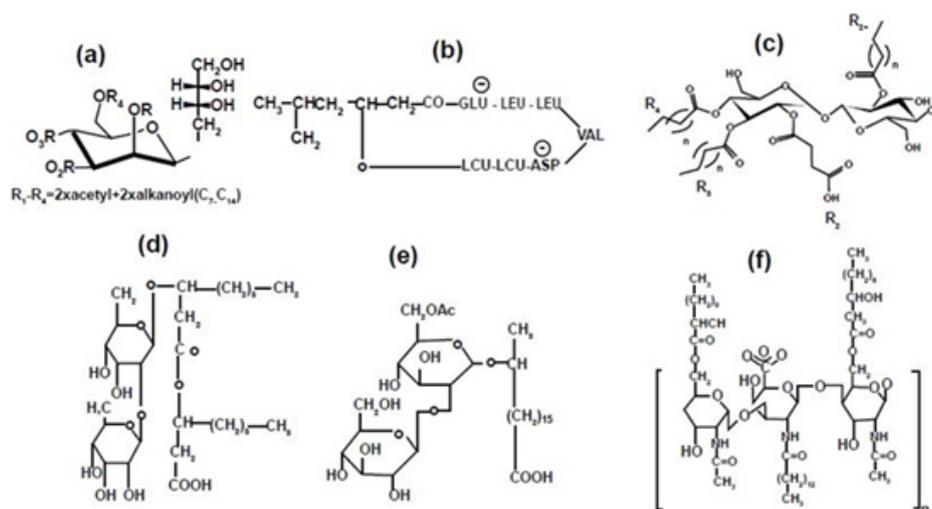
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## Introduction

*Bacillus cereus* were known in 1970s due to the relation to outbreaks of food poisoning.<sup>1</sup> Widespread in nature and foods.<sup>2</sup> *B. cereus* is a known well group of ubiquitous, facultative anaerobic, spore-forming, and gram-positive, rod shapes, and disturbed widely in nature and contaminates all agricultural products, also isolated from animal hair, cereal crops, dust, vegetation, fresh water and sediments, although in several cases *B. cereus* isolated from fish, also isolated from soil.<sup>3</sup> In other studies, reported that *B. cereus* was isolated from spices.<sup>3,4</sup> Due to ability of *B. Cereus* to resist hard conditions, this group type of bacteria can survive in the small intestine of human.<sup>5</sup> *B. cereus* group also found in human intestine due to quality of food and elements such as Nitrogen,<sup>6</sup> and oil.<sup>7</sup> Also this species found in harsh environments such as these contaminated with 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT), studies referees to the ability of *B. cereus* group for the Biodegradation of explosive material (TNT).<sup>7</sup> In further, reports evidenced that *Bacillus* has the ability to degrade petroleum hydrocarbon and aromatic compounds, which were mostly found in

polluted soil, also many studies found the ability of *Bacillus cereus* to stay alive in contaminated soils with oily hydrocarbons.<sup>8</sup> From a long time, *Bacillus cereus* group found in fried rice and associated with food poisoning.<sup>9</sup> This type of bacteria associated with biodegradation of oily hydrocarbons in addition to the other microorganisms which belong to same family and those which belong to other families<sup>10,11</sup> From above, I sew something in one of our experiments, when we coked rice, when boiled with water with some salt Sodium chloride NaCl only with no additives, we noticed there were no growth, although we have not wash rice? But highly growth was found in different samples of food which coked with oil.<sup>7</sup> My question is why oil had change the results? this type of microorganisms need nutrients for survive, there for must has a kind of enzymes which help them for getting Carbon and Nitrogen, that they can use toxic substances as a resources of Carbon a nutrient even there were not found nutrients which came from biotic resources. What is the best method for getting nutrients? Studies reported an important thing which named a biosurfactant.



**Figure 1** Chemical structures common biosurfactants (a) Mannosylerythritol lipid (b) Surfactin (c) trehalose lipid (d) Sophorolipid (e) Rhamnolipid (f) Emulsan.

## Biosurfactant

these materials are produced from many type of microorganisms such as *Acinetobacter sp.*, *Bacillus sp.*, *Candida antarctica*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Figure 1.<sup>12</sup> The production of biosurfactant by the organism determines the hydrocarbon degrading capacity of the organism, for the production of biosurfactant were produced in nature due to number of bacteria, pH, Temperature, Carbon source and Nitrogen source.<sup>13</sup>

## Biosurfactant and virulence factors

Biosurfactant considered as nontoxic environmentally tools for the bioremediation of contaminated soil, also biosurfactant can broke long chine of fats to short chines in order release carbon with nitrogen for getting needed energy for growth.<sup>14</sup> Biosurfactant related genetically to the *B. cereus* group.<sup>15</sup> In other hand there are a more important thing, which is called virulent factor related with members of the *B. cereus* group carry genes encoding for several important virulence factors which including enterotoxins, phospholipases and exotoxins. Since it is difficult to differentiate among *B. cereus* group members, and because *Bacillus* virulence factors are very important for pathogenesis.<sup>16</sup> Naturally, in environment, reported results referred to when there was a balance between the surface tension reduction and emulsification capabilities, smaller and more stable emulsions were formed and biodegradation of hydrocarbons significantly improved.<sup>17</sup> From all above, I think the two things are very important for surviving of *B. cereus* group and they acting together and not separately, biosurfactant which degrade fats and all products which related to the virulence factors, both of biosurfactant and virulence factors create a very suitable environment for growth of *B. cereus* group, according to the hypothesis which I recognized, *B. cereus* can't survive without one of biosurfactant production or virulence factors.

## Recommendations

If recurs of bacteria from places related with human health, that mean the virulence of these bacteria will be high, when there are oily resources it may act to make kind of infection, if we not allowed to spill oil or not mix fats with contaminated with infection resources, we will keep people safe from food poisoning, this mode of action wanted a lot in bioremediation and degradation of oily hydrocarbons contamination.

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## Conflict of interest

There is no conflict of interest among the authors.

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