

Short communication: Isolation of mutants of *Penicillium purpurogenum* with enhanced xylanase and β -xylosidase production

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Penicillium purpurogenum was mutated with u.v. light to increase xylanase production. The best mutant, UV-64, was treated with N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine and a second generation of mutants was obtained (NG-188 and NG-737). NG-737 produced 125 U of xylanase/ml when grown on oat spelts xylan supplemented with wheat bran compared with 69 U/ml for the wild-type strain. The mutants also showed a 2.2-fold increase in β -xylosidase as compared with the wild-type.