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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Three cellulosomal xylanase genes in *C. thermocellum* are regulated by both vegetative SigA (σ^{A}) and alternative SigI6 (σ^{I6}) factors

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Abstract

Clostridium thermocellum efficiently degrades crystalline cellulose by a high molecular weight protein complex, the cellulosome. The bacterium regulates its cellulosomal genes using a unique extracellular biomass-sensing mechanism that involves alternative sigma factors and extracellular carbohydrate-binding modules attached to intracellular anti-sigma domains. In this study, we identified three cellulosomal xylanase genes that are regulated by the σ^{I6} /RsgI6 system by utilizing *sigI6* and *rsgI6* knockout mutants together with primer extension analysis. Our results indicate that cellulosomal genes are expressed from both alternative σ^{I6} and weak σ^{A} vegetative promoters.

Abbreviations

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