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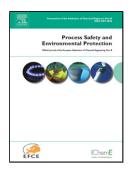
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Physicochemical characterization of Enterobacter cloacae C3 lipopeptides and their

applications in enhancing diesel oil biodegradation

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Highlights

Lipopeptides produced by Enterobacter cloacae C3 strain solubilize compounds

present in diesel oil.

E. cloacae C3 strain is able to grow in a mineral-salts medium supplemented with

diesel oil.

The degradation of diesel oil by E. cloacae strain reached a maximum value of 48%

after about 15 days of incubation, in the presence of 1 g/l lipopeptides C3.

The excellent physicochemical properties of lipopeptides C3 suggest that are potent

surface active agent and make the strain an efficient bioremediation tool for use as

microbial-enhanced oil recovery.

Abstract

Enterobacter cloacae C3 strain was isolated from a soil contaminated by natural-gas

condensate in Sfax City, Tunisia. This strain was selected for further studies based on its high

surface activities. The physicochemical properties and stability of produced biosurfactants

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