

***Faculty of Science***

***Department: Chemistry***

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***Title: Adenosine deaminase from camel tick hyalomma dromedarii: purification characterization***

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***Abstract:***

Adenosine deaminase is involved in purine metabolism and is a key enzyme for the control of the cellular levels of adenosine. Adenosine deaminase activity showed significant changes during embryogenesis of the camel tick *Hyalomma dromedarii*. From the elution profile of chromatography on DEAE-sepharose, three forms of enzyme (ADAI; DAAII AND ADAIII) were separated. ADAII was purified to homogeneity after chromatography on Sephacryl S-200. The molecular mass of adenosine deaminase ADAII was 42 kDa for the native enzyme and represented a monomer of 42 kDa by SDS-PAGE. The enzyme had a pH optimum at 7.5 and temperature optimum at 40 C with heat stability up to 40 C. ADAII had a  $K_m$  of 0.5 mM adenosine with higher affinity toward deoxyadenosine and adenosine than other purines.  $Na^{2+}$ ,  $Ba^{2+}$ ,  $Zn^{2+}$ ,  $Li^{2+}$ ,  $Hg^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  partially inhibited the ADAII.  $Mg^{2+}$  was the strongest inhibitor by 91% of the enzyme's activity.

***Key words:***

Camel, Tick *Hyalomma dromedarii*, Embryogenesis Adenosine deaminase, Purification, Characterization.

***Faculty of Science***

***Department: Chemistry***

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***Title: Characterization of esterases from Cucurbita pepo cv. "Eskandrani"***

***Authors: Afaf S. Fahmy, Amal Z. Abo-Zeid, Tarek M. Mohamed, Hala M. Ghanem, Ibrahim H. Borai & Saleh A. Mohamed***

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***Abstract:***

Two of the six esterases identified in *Cucurbita pepo* c. "Eskandrani" were purified to homogeneity using two chromatography steps: anion exchange and gel filtration. The molecular weights of °C. pepo esterases E1c and E1I were 50,000 ± 1500 and 68,000 ± 1900 Da from gel filtration and 47,000 and 66,000 Da from SDS/PAGE, respectively suggesting a monomeric structure for both enzymes. Esterases E1c and E1I had  $K_m$  values of 1.22 and 1.56 mM and pH optima at 9.0 and 9.0, respectively. The substrate specificity of °C. pepo esterases E1c and E1I were determined for a number of p-nitrophenyl esters, where their affinity toward these substrates were decreased as carbon atom number increased. Esterases E1c and E1I had the same temperature optima, 40 °C. Thermal stability studies of esterases E1c and E1I indicated that half maximal activities of E1c and E1I esterases were reached at 55 °C and 50 °C, while they lost 45%, 51% and 70%, 77% of their activities after 30 and 90 min of incubation at 40 °C, respectively. The effect of different metal cations and inhibitors were examined. The esterases are closely similar to those of microbial esterases used in food processing and food industry.

***Key words:***

Esterase, *cucurbita pepo* cv. "Eskandrani", purification, Characterization.