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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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PLASMID STABILITY STUDIES OF JM109 HOST SYSTEM

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Manuscript Info

Key words:-

JM109, Danthrone, Acridine Orange,
Radio Frequency, Microwave

Abstract

The purpose of the study delineates the growth and plasmid stability of *E. coli* JM109 host system. Different concentrations of drugs, chemicals and various frequency of radiations were subjected to the host system to verify the colony forming units along with plasmid concentration and stability. Among chemicals, acridine orange showed highest effect on growth of DH5a, while among the drugs, danthrone showed maximum effect on the growth of the organism. Radio frequency of 2GHz and low intensity microwave radiation were recorded as highest inhibitory effects. However, there is no significant effect in growth was observed in exposure to UV rays. The present work discussed that, the effect of drugs, chemicals, radio frequency and microwave radiation have a huge effect not only on growth of organism but also concentration and stability of plasmid.

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Introduction:-

Drug treatments, effect of chemicals and exposure to radiations are very important in research and medicine [1]. For over a decade, geneticists were interested in inducing mutations with chemicals and radiations targeted to discover the mutagenic compounds through their specific activity which can probably give some understanding and knowledge of chemical basis of mutation and gene structure [2-4]. Plasmids are important tools for biotechnology, an understanding of the biology of plasmids is highly needed for improved industrial applications [5]. Many expression systems exploit plasmids as the vectors for production of recombinant proteins or non-proteinous recombinant components [6]. Such plasmids show an essential impact on productivity. Thus, studying plasmid stability and colony forming units is necessary both at industry and research level [7]. JM109 competent cells are generally a *E. coli* strain for cloning and plasmid maintenance [8]. Bacterial Strain JM109 is an important host for transforming pGEM vectors and for producing single-stranded DNA from M13 or phagemid vectors [9]. The strain can be transformed effectively by different techniques. As JM109 is *recA*- and does not have the *E. coli* K restriction system [10], undesirable restriction of cloned DNA and recombination with host DNA are not allowed [11]. JM109 is lacking in beta-galactosidase action because of deletions in both genomic and episomal duplicates of the *lacZ*

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gene. [12]. In this study, the concentration and stability of plasmid were analysed using drugs, chemicals and exposure to various radiations.

Materials And Methods:-

All molecular biology kits were procured from Thermo Fischer, India. *E. coli* JM109 (Promega: P9751) was procured from Promega - India. All solvents and reagents were of analytical grade, and all experiments were performed with deionized water.

Preparation of bacterial culture

Stock culture of *E. coli* JM109 was sub-cultured on LB agar at 37°C for 24 h [13]. A total of 45 sterile falcon tubes were taken and grouped into three categories, every five tubes were added having density of 2.25×10^7 cells/ml, inoculated a flask containing 250ml of sterile culture medium and labelled with varying concentrations from 1mg to 5mg of chemicals (Sodium acetate, Benzene, Acridine orange) [14-15] from 1mg to 5mg, drugs (Tacrolimus, Sodium bisulphate, Danthrone) [16], radiation (Radio waves - 0.5ghz to 2ghz, Microwave - medium, medium-low, low, UV rays - 212nm, 253nm, 365nm) [17], inoculated aseptically, incubated for overnight at 37°C for 120rpm to obtain a concentration of 1.5×10^8 cells/ml.

Bacterial Plasmid DNA Isolation

Cell pellet was harvested by centrifugation at 6,000 rpm for 15 min at RT. The supernatant was removed and plasmids were extracted using HiPurA™ Plasmid DNA Miniprep purification (HiMedia), as per the manufacturer's instructions [18]. Plasmids were eluted in 1 mL 1 mM Tris/HCl pH 8 or sterile ddH₂O and plasmid concentration was measured (NanoDrop 2000, Thermo Scientific) [19] or determined by comparing the DNA concentration of 1 µL linearized plasmid with 5 µL DNA Marker (Puregene) [20].

Results And Discussion:-

Plasmid stability studies

Plasmid stability has been problematic in bacterial studies, and historically antibiotics have been used to ensure plasmid stability. This has been a major limitation during *in-vivo* studies, in which, providing antibiotics for plasmid maintenance is difficult and has confounding effects. In the present study, we used different chemicals, drugs and exposed with various radiations to construct stable plasmids that obviate antibiotic usage. The samples were then run on 1% agarose gel together with 1kb ladder DNA for reference and checked for the purity. The concentration of the plasmid DNA obtained was 39.65 µg/ml.

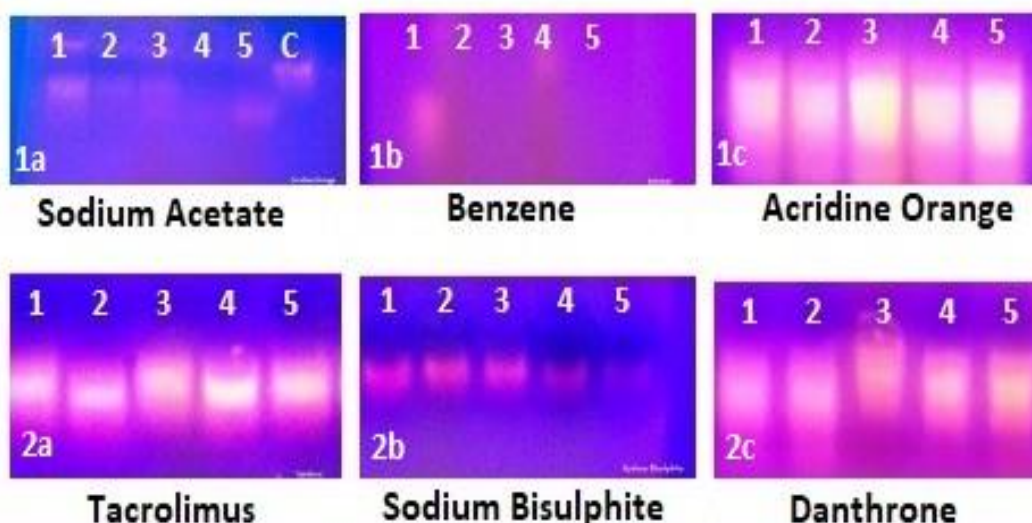


Figure 1:- High-copy number plasmid DNA was isolated from overnight bacterial culture 1a) treated with sodium acetate (1-5mg/ml) 1b) treated with benzene (1-5mg/ml) 1c) treated with acridine orange (1-5mg/ml) 2a) treated with tacrolimus (1-5mg/ml) 2b) treated with sodium bisulphite (1-5mg/ml) 2c) treated with danthrone (1-5mg/ml) and purified plasmid DNA was analyzed by agarose (1%) electrophoresis.

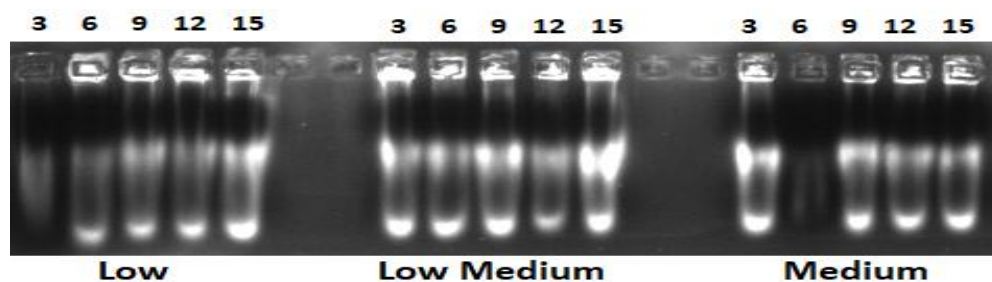


Figure 2:- High-copy number plasmid DNA was isolated from overnight bacterial culture exposed at low, low-medium, medium microwave radiation ranging from 3 to 15 seconds and purified plasmid DNA was analysed by agarose (1%) electrophoresis.

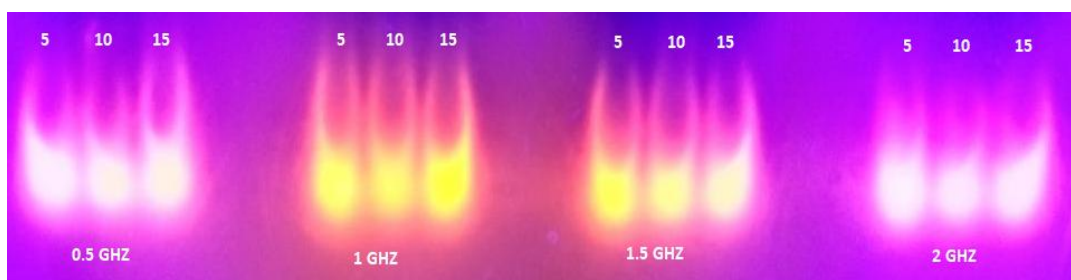


Figure 3:- High-copy number plasmid DNA was isolated from overnight bacterial culture exposed with radio wave radiation ranging from 5 to 15 minutes and purified plasmid DNA was analysed by agarose (1%) electrophoresis.

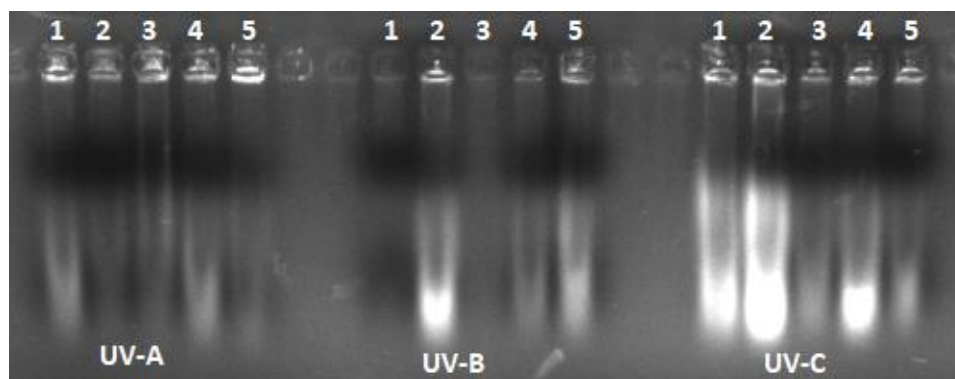


Figure 4:- High-copy number plasmid DNA was isolated from overnight bacterial culture exposed with ultraviolet radiation ranging from 1 to 5 minutes and purified plasmid DNA was analysed by agarose (1%) electrophoresis.

Conclusion:-

Although the molecular details of plasmid constructs and biology of host cell are of interest, biochemical engineers are concerned primarily with maintaining plasmid stability with environmental manipulations including media composition and selection pressures, dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH and mode of cultivation. Here we focused on plasmid stability at molecular and cellular engineering levels using various drugs, chemicals and radiation. With improved understanding, plasmid stability may be enhanced by manipulating plasmid composition and structure, modifying the genetic and physiological properties of host.

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