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PROTEASE PRODUCTION FROM SOIL MYCOFLORA UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF VARIOUS PROTEIN SUBSTRATES AND CARBON SOURCES

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ABSTRACT : In the present study, eighteen fungal isolates were able to produce extracellular protease. They were identified as species of *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium* and *Fusarium*. Casein was a very high potential substrate for protease production for the sp. of *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium*. Among all eighteen isolates, isolate No.3, 8, 11 and 13 showed large clear halos in casein media and were selected for further investigation. The highest protease production was achieved by addition of glycerol among other carbon sources by isolate No.3, 8, 11 and 13. Our results showed that the enzyme production was induced when glycerol was used as a carbon source.

Keywords : *Aspergillus*, *fungal isolates*, *Fusarium*, *Penicillium*