

1 **Identification of fungal ene-reductase activity by means of a functional screening.**

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10

11 **Abstract**

12 Bioeconomy stresses the need of green processes promoting the development of
13 new methods for biocatalyzed alkene reductions. A functional screening of 28 fungi
14 belonging to Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and Zygomycota isolated from different
15 habitats was performed to analyze their capability to reduce C=C double bonds towards
16 three substrates (cyclohexenone, α -methylnitrostyrene and α -methylcinnamaldehyde)
17 with different electron-withdrawing groups, i.e., ketone, nitro and aldehyde,
18 respectively. Almost all the fungi showed this reducing activity. Noteworthy *Gliomastix*
19 *masseii*, *Mucor circinelloides* and *Mucor plumbeus* resulted versatile and effective,
20 being able to reduce all the model substrates quickly and with high yields.

21

22 **Keywords**

23 Biocatalysis, filamentous fungi, ene-reductases, α,β -unsaturated compounds,
24 bioreduction.

25 **1. Introduction**

26 Nowadays, the synthesis of molecules with biotechnological exploitations is
27 mainly done by traditional chemical processes, which generally have high costs and
28 important environmental impact. The growing awareness about safety problems brought
29 to restrain the use of chemical catalysts as heavy metals or unsafe gasses that require
30 harsh working conditions in terms of temperature and pressure (Faber, 2011).

31 On the other hand, biocatalyst seems to be a viable alternative to traditional
32 methods because it may minimize the environmental impact due to the low energy
33 demand, waste and by-products formations and reduce the process costs. Moreover,
34 biocatalysis is a powerful tool to obtain chiral molecules in enantiomerically pure form,
35 which are highly valued for instance in the pharmaceutical field (Soartet and
36 Vandamme, 2010).

37 The reduction of C=C double bonds conjugated with different electron-
38 withdrawing groups (EWG) such as carbonyl, nitro and ester can be catalyzed by Ene-
39 Reductases (E.C. 1.6.99.1, ERs). Most of the known ERs are flavin-dependent
40 oxidoreductases belonging to the Old Yellow Enzyme family, which require NAD(P)H
41 as cofactor (Stuermer et al., 2007). They were discovered in 1933 in *Saccharomyces*
42 *pastorianus* (Stott et al., 1993), then they were found in *S. cerevisiae* (Karplus et al.,
43 1995). In the following years, many ERs were described in other yeasts, bacteria, plants
44 and animals, but still little is known about their occurrence in filamentous fungi
45 (Stuermer et al., 2007), as well the biological role although some authors suggested ERs
46 involvement in the stress response pathways (Brigè et al., 2006). The C=C double bond
47 reduction is a crucial intermediate step for the production of bulk chemicals (Gatti et al.,

48 2014). The identification of new biocatalysts is an actual need in order to enlarge the
49 portfolio of microorganisms and enzymes to be used for biosynthesis processes.
50 Considering the ecological biodiversity and the potentially expressed heterogeneous
51 enzymatic pattern, filamentous fungi offer a great portfolio of biocatalyst already
52 involved in the production of pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals or fragrances (Colwell,
53 2002; Gavrilescu and Chisti, 2005).

54 ERs of yeasts, bacteria and plants have been characterized at genomic, structural
55 and catalytical level (Gatti et al., 2014), but very few information are available for
56 filamentous fungi. The definition of the catalytic cycle allowed developing an
57 enzymatic assay, based on the co-factor consumption (Gao et al., 2012). Indeed its use
58 is limited because many unsaturated substrates commonly used in biocatalysis absorb at
59 the same wavelength of the cofactor. Moreover since several enzymes use NAD(P)H as
60 cofactor, this method is elective of ER activity only in presence of purified enzymes.

61 Since the purification of fungal ERs is not a common practice, a whole-cell
62 system is still the method of choice for biocatalysis experiments. Several authors
63 described the capability of filamentous fungi to reduce the C=C double bonds of a
64 single substrate or of a set of compounds belonging to the same structural class (Arnone
65 et al., 1990; Fuganti et al., 1998; Hall et al., 2006; Skrobiszewski et al., 2013). To date,
66 the main functional screening of filamentous fungi was performed by Carballeira et al.
67 (2004) that takes into account 241 fungi of which only 3 were capable to reduce the
68 C=C double bond of carvone. Nevertheless, data comparison with literature is difficult
69 due to the few model substrates used to investigate ER activity; actually, few studies
70 take into account more than one compound. For example, Goretti et al. (2011) described
71 a whole-cell system of non-conventional yeasts in the bioconversion of several α,β -
72 unsaturated ketones and aldehydes.

73 The present study aims to identify filamentous fungi showing ER activity
74 through a functional screening of 28 filamentous fungi belonging to Ascomycota,
75 Basidiomycota and Zygomycota, isolated from different habitats. Three representative
76 model substrates characterized by different EWGs (ketone, nitro and aldehyde)
77 conjugated with the C=C double bond were selected. The reduction of the C=C double
78 bonds was followed by GC/MS analysis.

79 **2. Materials and Methods**

80 2.1 Fungi

81 The fungi used in this study belong to different physiological and taxonomical
82 groups and were isolated from several habitats (Table 1). They are preserved at the
83 *Mycotheca Universitatis Taurinensis* (MUT, Department of Life Sciences and Systems
84 Biology, University of Turin).

85 2.2 Chemicals

86 Cyclohexenone (CE) and α -methylcinnamaldehyde (MCA) were purchased from
87 Sigma-Aldrich (Italy). (*E*)- α -methylnitrostyrene (MNS) was synthesized according to
88 the literature (Kawai et al., 2001). Stock solutions (500 mM) of each substrate were
89 prepared by dissolving them in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO).

90 2.3 Biotransformation experiments

91 Fungal strains were pre-grown in Petri dishes containing malt extract solid
92 medium (MEA: 20 g/l glucose, 20 g/l malt extract, 20 g/l agar, 2 g/l peptone) from
93 which the fungal inoculum for liquid cultures was set up. When possible, a conidia
94 suspension was prepared ($1 \cdot 10^6$ conidia final concentration in flask). Otherwise, the
95 inoculum was made by homogenizing agar squares derived from the margins of an
96 overgrown colony together with sterile water ($1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{ml}$). Fungi were inoculated in 50
97 ml flasks containing 30 ml of malt extract liquid medium. Flasks were incubated at 25
98 °C and were maintained in agitation (110 rpm) in the dark.

99 After two days of pre-growth, the substrates were separately added (5 mM final
100 concentration). For each substrate, three biological replicates were run.

101 The experiment was run for 7 days: 1 ml of cultural broth was collected after 2,
102 4 and 7 days and extracted by two-phase separation using 0.5 ml of methyl *t*-butyl ether
103 (MTBE) as solvent. The organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and
104 analyzed by means of GC/MS.

105 After two days, one flask for each fungus was sacrificed to measure the initial
106 biomass and pH. Those parameters were also evaluated for all the flasks at the end of
107 the experiment. The liquid was separated from the biomass by filtration and was used
108 for pH measurement. The mycelia were dried at 60 °C for 24 h to measure the
109 biomasses dry weight.

110 Biomass weight was obtained by drying in oven at 60 °C for 24 h. Since it was
111 not possible to collect *G. cucujoidarum* mycelium due to its yeast-like growth, a Burker
112 chamber was used to count the cells number in each ml of culture solution.

113 2.4 GC/MS analysis

114 GC/MS analyses were performed on an Agilent HP 6890 gas chromatograph
115 equipped with a 5973 mass detector and an HP-5-MS column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25
116 μm, Agilent), employing the following temperature program: 60 °C (1 min) / 6 °C min⁻¹
117 / 150 °C (1 min) / 12 °C min⁻¹ / 280 °C (5 min). GC retention times: cyclohexenone
118 (CE) 5.40 min, cyclohexanone (CO) 4.65 min, cyclohexanol (COH) 4.45 min, (*E*)-α-
119 methylnitrostyrene (MNS) 17.7 min, (*Z*)-α-methylnitrostyrene (MNS) 15.6 min, 2-
120 nitropropylbenzene (NPB) 14.8 min, α-methylcinnamaldehyde (MCA) 14.7 min, α-
121 methylcinnamyl alcohol (MCOH) 15.5 min, α-methyldihydrocinnamyl alcohol
122 (MDHCOH) 13.6 min. The enantiomeric excess (ee) values of MDHCOH was
123 determined by GC analysis, using a Chirasil Dex CB column (0.25 μm × 0.25 mm × 25
124 m, Varian), according to the following conditions: 60 °C / 5 °C min⁻¹ / 95 °C (25 min) /

125 50 °C min⁻¹ / 220 °C (10 min). GC retention times: (*R*)-enantiomer 26.6 min, (*S*)-
126 enantiomer 27.9 min.

127 **3. Results and Discussion**

128 The results of the biotransformation of the three substrates by the 28 fungi are
129 shown in the following tables, the maximum percentage of C=C double bonds reduction
130 and the percentage of product yield are reported. Four groups were established on
131 account of the rate of substrates transformation by means of a putative ER activity:
132 group A 100-75 %; group B 74-50 %; group C 49-25 % and group D 24-0 %.

133 Regarding pH measurements, the cultural broth of each fungus remained
134 unchanged during the experiments. The pH values ranged between 3 and 6 and seemed
135 to depend on the metabolism of each fungus; variations due to the addition of substrates
136 were not detected.

137 **3.1 CE biotransformation**

138 Almost all the fungi (96.4 %) were able to reduce the C=C double bond of CE
139 among which 75 % could be listed in group A. The other fungi were 3.6 % in group B,
140 11 % in group C and 11 % in group D. As it can be seen in Table 2, 11 out of 28 fungi
141 were able to completely transform this substrate within two days (*C. herbarum*, *G.*
142 *masseei*, *P. citrinum*, *S. fimicola*, *T. viride*, *A. cylindracea*, *A. splendida*, *Coprinellus*
143 *sp.*, *T. pubescens*, *M. circinelloides*, *M. plumbeus*). On the whole, the majority of the
144 fungi were not only able to reduce the C=C double bond of this substrate but also
145 reached the biotransformation of this molecule in its corresponding alcohol.

146 CE is a well-accepted substrate, actually only one fungus out of 28 was
147 ineffective towards this compound. Ketonic substrates have been frequently considered
148 in the literature; for example, Gatti et al. (2014) discussed several ketone substrates such
149 as carvone or ketoisophorone used in bioconversions that involved ERs.

150 The results obtained in this study may be compared with literature. In particular,
151 two fungi belonging to the genus *Mucor* were effective toward CE confirming the
152 results obtained by Fuganti and Zucchi (1998).

153 Other authors analyzed the biotransformation of molecules with ketonic EWG
154 with a basic scaffold similar to CE. Skrobiszewski et al. (2013) described a strain of *P.*
155 *ostreatus* effective towards C=C double bonds reduction; this data was confirmed also
156 by the strain used in this study. *Absidia glauca* and *Beauveria bassiana* were poorly
157 effective towards C=C double bonds reduction of CE while the strains used by
158 Carballeira et al. (2004) and Fuganti and Zucchi (1998) reduce ketonic substrate with
159 high yield in benzalacetones derivatives.

160 CE biotransformation led to the identification of two products: first ERs reduce
161 the C=C double bond of CE leading to the formation of CO, then ADHs reduce the keto
162 group of CO leading to the formation of COH, the putative reaction profile is shown in
163 Figure 1. Most of the fungi (67 %) convert CE into COH showing the action of ERs and
164 ADHs, while 26 % showed only ERs activity reducing preferentially the C=C double
165 bond, leading to the production of CO. When the reduction was slow for instance during
166 the biotransformation of CE by the fungus *P. citrinum* (Figure 2), it was possible to
167 define a putative reaction profile in which the two enzymes act in cascade. In most
168 cases, the reaction was very fast and only the formation of COH was detected. The same
169 reaction profile was hypothesized by other authors in the reduction of analogous
170 substrates of CE (Fuganti et al., 1998; Fuganti and Zucchi, 1998; Carballeira et al.,
171 2004; Hall et al., 2006; Stuermer et al., 2007; Skrobiszewski et al., 2013).

172 3.2 MNS biotransformation

173 The C=C double bond of this substrate was reduced by 82 % of the fungi (Table
174 2), among which 14 % could be listed in group A. The other fungi were 7.1 % in group
175 B, 25 % in group C, and the majority (53.6 %) in group D. As it can be seen in Table 3,

176 two fungi out of 28 (*A. niger* and *M. circinelloides*) were active and reached an almost
177 complete conversion of the substrate within 2 days.

178 MNS biotransformation led to the identification of NPB as the sole product
179 through the reduction of a C=C double bond by ER activity (Figure 3). It was not
180 possible to analyze ee values because the product of the conversion undergo to a rapid
181 non-enzymatic racemization, which leads to the production of racemates.

182 Although nitrostyrene derivatives are good substrates for ERs (Toogood et al.,
183 2008; Gatti et al., 2014), to our knowledge, this is the first report of the reduction of the
184 C=C double bonds of nitroalkenes by filamentous fungi. A whole-cell system using *S.*
185 *cerevisiae* in the reduction of the C=C double bond of MNS was reported by Kawai et
186 al. (2001) which obtained yields comparable to the fungi gathered in group A.

187 3.3 MCA biotransformation

188 The C=C double bond of this substrate was reduced by 35.7 % of the fungi
189 (Table 4) among which only 7.1 % in group A. The other fungi were 3.6 % in group B
190 and 89.3 % in group D. Two fungi, *M. circinelloides* and *M. plumbeus*, completely
191 converted MCA within 2 days into the (*S*)-enantiomer of the corresponding saturated
192 alcohol MDHCOH, showing an ee value of 80 %. This result is promising compared to
193 literature: Fronza et al. (2009) reported a conversion rate of 12 % and ee value of 70 %
194 ((*S*)- enantiomer) in the reduction of MCA with whole-cell of *S. cerevisiae*.

195 The difficulty to reduce MCA has been also found by other authors, for example
196 Goretti et al. (2011) screened non-conventional yeasts but only *Kazachstania*
197 *spencerorum* out of 23 microorganisms was able to convert this substrate (60 %).

198 The MCA biotransformation led to the identification of two products, probably
199 involving two enzymes (Figure 4). The reduction of C=C and C=O double bonds led to
200 the formation of MDHCOH by means of ERs and ADHs. The reduction of the aldehyde
201 EWG by ADHs before the C=C reduction could take place, led to the formation of

202 MCOH. Since the MCOH lacks the necessary EWG, it is not a substrate for ERs and
203 consequently accumulates in the medium. In our experiments, two fungi (*A. glauca* and
204 *E. nigrum*) formed MCOH showing only ADH activity. By contrast, 8 fungi formed a
205 mixture of MCOH and MDHCOH, preferentially reducing the aldehydic group. This
206 reaction profile has recently been reported for *S. cerevisiae* (Gatti et al. 2014).

207 3.4 General considerations

208 The screening clearly showed that the EWG on the C=C double bonds strongly
209 influenced the reaction rate of the various strains tested. Probably the catalytic activity
210 of the enzymes was also affected by the steric hindrance of the other substituents and by
211 electronic effects, as widely discussed by Stuermer et al. (2007) and Gatti et al. (2014).
212 In detail, the substrates were transformed following this outline: CE > MNS > MCA.
213 CE was the most easily converted substrate, due to the presence of a strong EWG
214 (ketone) and only two substituents on the double bond, both with a modest steric
215 hindrance. MNS and MCA share the same basic scaffold, with higher steric hindrance
216 due to the aromatic ring, but they differ in the EWGs (nitro and aldehyde, respectively):
217 the higher conversion of MNS can be justified by the much higher electron-withdrawing
218 power of the nitro group.

219 It has to be noticed that ER activity appears to be genus specific, for instance, the
220 strains of *Mucor* reached the same conversion yields in the biotransformation of all the
221 substrates whereas, the strains of *Penicillium* behave differently towards the substrates
222 analyzed (Table 2, 3, 4). This consideration makes the screening for the selection of
223 strains for definite reactions a required step for the analysis of the intraspecific
224 variability.

225 The fungi afforded different yields in the conversion of these substrates. This may
226 not only be due to the different affinity of the enzyme for the substrate but also to an

227 activation of the secondary metabolism of the fungus that would lead to the production
228 of putative ERs in the presence of different substrates.

229 3.5 Biomasses

230 The biomass growth is an important parameter that most often is not taken into
231 account by other authors, reason for which it is not easy to make comparisons with
232 other studies. Data are reported in Table 5. On the whole, all fungi were able to grow in
233 presence of all substrates: no morphological differences have been observed but a slight
234 biological variability among replicates.

235 A detailed correlation between biomass and ER activity was not outlined because
236 several factors may play single or combinatorial effects (i.e. primary or secondary
237 metabolism, nourishment sources, toxic substrate or product, stress responses, etc.).

238 Noteworthy, in presence of CE, fungal growth was often higher than in the other
239 cultural lines: the highest biomass development was observed for CE for 19 up to 28
240 strains. Further analyses are indeed necessary to understand the metabolic effect played
241 by different substrates on fungal growth.

242 4. Conclusions

243 The screening highlighted that ER activity is widespread in filamentous fungi. In
244 fact, 27 out of 28 microorganisms reduced at least one substrate. Consequently,
245 although the biological role of ER is still unknown, this activity may be involved in the
246 secondary metabolism of the microorganisms analyzed.

247 *M. circinelloides*, *M. plumbeus* and *G. marseeii* were the most versatile strains
248 converting all the analyzed substrates, with the highest yields. Moreover, this study also
249 highlighted problems related to substrate selection: by now, several chemical classes
250 have been investigated, but these activities are difficult to compare due to the lack of
251 validated model compounds.

252 Acknowledgement

253 This project was supported by Fondazione CRT Torino, Italy.

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308

309 **Table 1:** list of the strains analyzed during the screening and their isolation site (MUT:
310 accession number).

311

312 **Table 2:** biotransformation of CE as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond
313 reduction and the percentage of product yield. According to the conversion of the
314 substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C:
315 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

316

317 **Table 3:** biotransformation of MNS as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond
318 reduction and the percentage of products yield. According to the conversion of the
319 substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C:
320 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

321

322 **Table 4:** biotransformation of MCA as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond
323 reduction and the percentage of products yield. According to the conversion of the
324 substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C:
325 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

326

327 **Table 5:** final biomass dry weight measurement (7 days). According to the biomass
328 development, five groups were defined: group 1 < 100 mg; group 2 100-200mg; group
329 3 200-400 mg; group 4 400-600 mg; group 5 > 600 mg. *: 3.6×10^8 cells/ml

330

331 **Figure 1:** putative CE reaction profile. ER: ene-reductase, ADH: alcohol
332 dehydrogenase, CE: cyclohexanone, CO: cyclohexanone, COH: cyclohexanol.

333

334 **Figure 2:** products formation profile of *P. citrinum* during the experiment (2, 4 and 7
335 days). CE: cyclohexanone, CO: cyclohexanone, COH: cyclohexanol.

336

337 **Figure 3:** putative MNS reaction profile. ER: ene-reductase, MNS: (*E*)- α -
338 methylnitrostyrene, NPB: 2-nitropropylbenzene.

339

340 **Figure 4:** putative MCA reaction profile. ER: ene-reductase, ADH: alcohol
341 dehydrogenase, MCA: α -methylcinnamaldehyde, MCOH: α -methylcinnamyl alcohol,
342 MSHCOH: α -methyldihydrocinnamyl alcohol.

Table 1: list of the strains analysed during the screening and their isolation site (MUT: accession number).

Fungi	MUT	Species	Isolation site
Asco-	3874	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	air
	1720	<i>Beauveria bassiana</i>	air
	1087	<i>Botrytis cinerea</i>	fresco of Botticelli
	3726	<i>Chaetomium funicola</i>	dried <i>Boletus</i> fungi from Europe
	3856	<i>Cladosporium herbarum</i>	air
	3848	<i>Epicoccum nigrum</i>	air
	4824	<i>Geotrichum cucujoidarum</i>	wastewater of a tanning industry
	4855	<i>Gliomastix masseei</i>	<i>Flabelia petiolata</i> (marine algae)
	281	<i>Mesobotrys simplex</i>	cultivated soil
	1749	<i>Myxotrichum deflexum</i>	air
	1381	<i>Oidiodendron maius</i>	roots of <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> (black raspberry)
	4862	<i>Penicillium citrinum</i>	<i>Flabelia petiolata</i> (marine algae)
	4831	<i>Penicillium purpurogenum</i>	wastewater of a tanning industry
	4892	<i>Penicillium vinaceum</i>	<i>Padina pavonica</i> (marine algae)
	4833	<i>Scopulariopsis</i> sp.	wastewater of a tanning industry
	1148	<i>Sordaria fimicola</i>	<i>Picea abies</i> (norway spruce)
1166	<i>Trichoderma viride</i>	tallus of <i>Parmelia taractica</i> (lichen)	
3788	<i>Trichurus spiralis</i>	book pages	
Basidio-	2753	<i>Agrocybe cylindracea</i>	carpophore
	2755	<i>Agrocybe farinacea</i>	carpophore
	3696	<i>Agrocybe splendida</i>	carpophore
	4897	<i>Coprinellus</i> sp.	<i>Padina pavonica</i> (marine algae)
	2976	<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	carpophore on <i>Populus</i> sp. (poplar)
	2400	<i>Trametes pubescens</i>	carpophore on <i>Populus</i> sp. (poplar)
Zygo-	1157	<i>Absidia glauca</i>	tallus of <i>Peltigera praetextata</i> (lichen)
	2769	<i>Mucor plumbeus</i>	air
	44	<i>Mucor circinelloides</i>	-
	2770	<i>Syncephalastrum racemosum</i>	air

Table 2: biotransformation of CE as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond reduction and the percentage of product yield. According to the conversion of the substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C: 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

Group	Fungus	Max % of C=C reduction	CO yield (%)	COH yield (%)
A	<i>B. cinerea</i>	100	0	100
	<i>C. funicola</i>	89	89	0
	<i>C. herbarum</i>	100	5	95
	<i>G. masseei</i>	100	14	86
	<i>M. simplex</i>	100	9	91
	<i>O. maius</i>	100	0	100
	<i>P. citrinum</i>	100	23	77
	<i>P. purpurogenum</i>	85	75	10
	<i>Scopulariopsis sp.</i>	100	54	46
	<i>S. fimicola</i>	100	6	94
	<i>T. viride</i>	100	0	100
	<i>T. spiralis</i>	100	0	100
	<i>A. cylindracea</i>	100	30	70
	<i>A. farinacea</i>	100	74	26
	<i>A. splendida</i>	100	2	98
	<i>Coprinellus sp.</i>	100	3	97
	<i>P. ostreatus</i>	100	30	70
	<i>T. pubescens</i>	100	0	100
	<i>M. circinelloides</i>	100	0	100
	<i>M. plumbeus</i>	100	0	100
<i>S. racemosum</i>	100	7	93	
B	<i>A. niger</i>	57	53	4
C	<i>E. nigrum</i>	30	24	6
	<i>G. cucujoidarum</i>	32	24	8
	<i>A. glauca</i>	35	27	8
D	<i>B. bassiana</i>	0	0	0
	<i>M. deflexum</i>	10	10	0
	<i>P. vinaceum</i>	23	23	0

Table 3: biotransformation of MNS as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond reduction and the percentage of products yield. According to the conversion of the substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C: 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

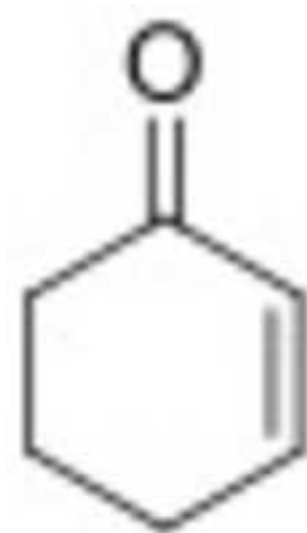
Group	Fungus	Max % of C=C reduction	NPB yield (%)
A	<i>A. niger</i>	97	97
	<i>P. citrinum</i>	98	98
	<i>M. circinelloides</i>	82	82
	<i>M. plumbeus</i>	79	79
B	<i>G. masseei</i>	72	72
	<i>T. pubescens</i>	52	52
C	<i>C. funicola</i>	30	30
	<i>E. nigrum</i>	32	32
	<i>G. cucujoidarum</i>	26	26
	<i>M. deflexum</i>	44	44
	<i>S. fimicola</i>	32	32
	<i>T. viride</i>	30	30
	<i>A. splendida</i>	34	34
D	<i>B. bassiana</i>	0	0
	<i>B. cinerea</i>	0	0
	<i>C. herbarum</i>	24	24
	<i>M. simplex</i>	18	18
	<i>O. maius</i>	20	20
	<i>P. purpurogenum</i>	0	0
	<i>P. vinaceum</i>	11	11
	<i>Scopulariopsis sp.</i>	17	17
	<i>T. spiralis</i>	0	0
	<i>A. cylindracea</i>	0	0
	<i>A. farinacea</i>	13	13
	<i>Coprinellus sp.</i>	11	11
	<i>P. ostreatus</i>	19	19
	<i>A. glauca</i>	22	22
<i>S. racemosum</i>	16	16	

Table 4: biotransformation of MCA as the maximum percentage of C=C double bond reduction and the percentage of products yield. According to the conversion of the substrates, four groups were defined: group A: 100-75 %; group B: 74-50 %; group C: 49-25 %; group D: 24-0 %.

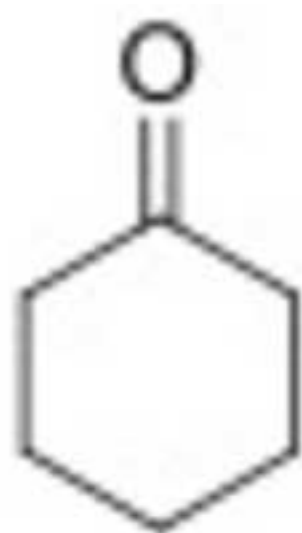
Group	Fungus	Max % of C=C reduction	MCOH yield (%)	MDHCOH yield (%)
A	<i>M. circinelloides</i>	100	0	100
	<i>M. plumbeus</i>	98	2	98
B	<i>G. masseei</i>	50	23	50
D	<i>A. niger</i>	0	0	0
	<i>B. bassiana</i>	0	0	0
	<i>B. cinerea</i>	18	62	18
	<i>C. funicola</i>	0	3	0
	<i>C. herbarum</i>	3	29	3
	<i>E. nigrum</i>	0	66	0
	<i>G. cucujoidarum</i>	0	35	0
	<i>M. simplex</i>	0	0	0
	<i>M. deflexum</i>	0	0	0
	<i>O. maius</i>	10	5	10
	<i>P. citrinum</i>	3	26	3
	<i>P. purpurogenum</i>	0	0	0
	<i>P. vinaceum</i>	0	0	0
	<i>Scopulariopsis sp.</i>	0	0	0
	<i>S. fimicola</i>	0	8	0
	<i>T. viridae</i>	10	88	10
	<i>T. spiralis</i>	0	0	0
	<i>A. cylindracea</i>	0	0	0
	<i>A. farinacea</i>	0	5	0
	<i>A. splendida</i>	0	0	0
	<i>Coprinellus sp.</i>	5	65	5
	<i>P. ostreatus</i>	0	0	0
	<i>T. pubescens</i>	14	33	14
	<i>A. glauca</i>	0	76	0
	<i>S. racemosum</i>	0	45	0

Table 5: final biomass dry weight measurement (7 days). According to the biomass development, five groups were defined: group 1 < 100 mg; group 2 100-200 mg; group 3 200-400 mg; group 4 400-600 mg; group 5 > 600 mg. *: 3.6 x 10⁸ cells/ml.

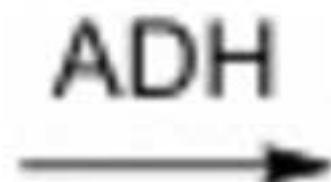
Fungus	Biomass growth			Max development
	CE	MNS	MCA	
<i>A. niger</i>	2	2	2	-
<i>B. bassiana</i>	3	1	1	CE
<i>B. cinerea</i>	5	4	3	CE
<i>C. funicola</i>	3	1	2	CE
<i>C. herbarum</i>	3	2	2	CE
<i>E. nigrum</i>	2	2	2	-
<i>G. cucujoidarum</i>	*	*	*	-
<i>G. masseei</i>	4	2	2	CE
<i>M. simplex</i>	2	1	1	CE
<i>M. deflexum</i>	1	1	1	-
<i>O. maius</i>	4	2	2	CE
<i>P. citrinum</i>	2	1	1	CE
<i>P. purpurogenum</i>	3	2	2	CE
<i>P. vinaceum</i>	1	1	1	-
<i>Scopulariopsis</i> sp.	2	1	1	CE
<i>S. fimicola</i>	2	1	1	CE
<i>T. viridae</i>	5	2	2	CE
<i>T. spiralis</i>	3	2	2	CE
<i>A. cylindracea</i>	1	1	1	-
<i>A. farinacea</i>	1	1	1	-
<i>A. splendida</i>	1	1	1	-
<i>Coprinellus</i> sp.	2	1	1	CE
<i>P. ostreatus</i>	2	1	1	CE
<i>T. pubescens</i>	5	1	1	CE
<i>A. glauca</i>	2	2	2	-
<i>M. plumbeus</i>	3	2	2	CE
<i>M. circinneloides</i>	3	2	2	CE
<i>S. racemosum</i>	2	1	1	CE



CE



CO



COH

