

Fruit juice analysis

Alicyclobacillus spp. detection with real-time PCR



Alicyclobacillus spp. – a fruit juice spoiler group

The problem for the fruit juice and beverage industry: the typical taste and flavor is changed adversely. Thus, an early identification of *Alicyclobacillus* is therefore of great importance, as spores of that bacteria cannot be deactivated by a usual pasteurization process. Consequently, a contamination with *Alicyclobacillus* can cause a significant reduction in quality and economic losses.

Background information

Fruit juices are usually concentrated, the pulp pasteurized and afterwards the concentrate is sold as a semi-finished product. The pasteurization avoids a microbiological contamination or growth. Since 1982, however, the soil bacterium genogroup *Alyclobacillus* spp. has been of growing interest. This bacterium is aerobic and acidophilic and grows at pH 2 - 6 and a temperature between about 40 - 60 °C. This rising spore-forming bacterium finds ideal conditions in fruit juice concentrates and fruit juices (orange, apple, tomatoes and other fruits). Spores can be activated by short heating process as by pasteurization processes.

This bacterium is not pathogenic, some of the approximately 20 species, in particular *A. acidoterristris* and *A. acidocaldarius* form the substance quaiacol.

Thereby it affects the smell and taste of the juice or product. Classical analysis is based on the culture in the medium BAT or other media with different temperature and takes long time.

The classical microbiologic analysis is described in the IFU 12 method and consists of cultivation in BAT medium and other media. The procedure takes around 2 weeks. Especially for export/import of fruit concentrates the time to result and therefore the quarantine time is quite long.

The real-time PCR enables fast and highly specific results after three days pre-enrichment. The DNA preparation has been optimized for detection of bacteria and spores out of difficult matrices, as pulp being rich of fibers.

Application

Juices or juice concentrates will be preincubated 1:10 in BAT medium for two to three days. In case of nega-

tive PCR results a prolongation for up to five days is recommended to detect damaged spores or bacteria.





Sampling

- 1 mL of representative sample
- Centrifugation and removal of fibers and debris
- Thermal and lysozyme mediated lysis
- Binding of DNA to spin filter, twofold purification

The DNA preparation kit **Q701** enables the use of difficult matrices as pulp and fruit juice concentrates.

Analytic procedure

A simple screening of Alicyclobacillus spp. may be performed on all commercial qPCR thermocylcer devices using the kit Q721 - Q724.

While Alicyclobacillus spp. is detected in the FAM

channel, the Internal Amplification Control (IAC) in the ROX or HEX channel excludes wrong negative results.

Multiplex screening and differentiation

Using the kit Q721 - Q724 the parameters

- Alicyclobacillus spp.
- A. acidoterrestris
- · A. acidocaldarius
- Internal Amplification Control

can be tested in one sample. Beside the genogroup of *Alicyclobacillus*, the most important Gujacol forming species will be identified.

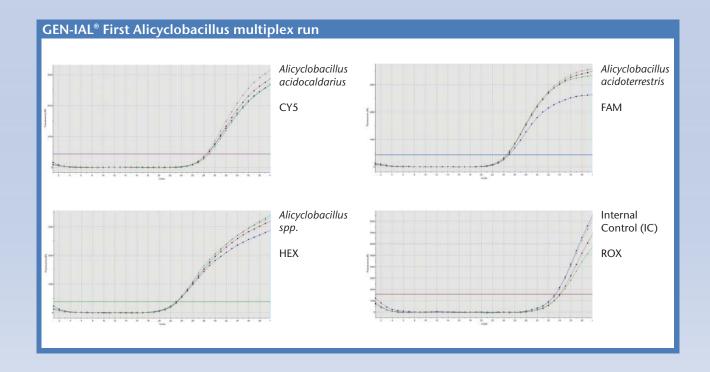
For this, a qPCR cycler with the detection channels

for FAM, ROX, Cy5, and HEX is required.

The time for analysis will be around 2 - 3 hours post pre-enrichment.

Real-time PCR

- Fast results
- Highly specific
- Easy to use
- Reduced time to result





Sensitivity/specificity

Inclusivity – 17 *Alicyclobacillus* species: 100 % positive **Exclusivity** – 50 non *Alicyclobacillus* species: 100 % negative

Evamples of testes bastonic species			
Examples of testes bacteria species Species	Alicyclobacillus		
Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius subsp.	positive		
acidocaldarius			
Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius subsp.rittmannii	positive		
Alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris	positive		
Alicyclobacillus acidiphilus	positive		
Alicyclobacillus contaminans	positive		
Alicyclobacillus cycloheptanicus	positive		
Alicyclobacillus disulfidooxidans	positive		
Alicyclobacillus fastidiosus	positive		
Alicyclobacillus ferrooxydans	positive		
Alicyclobacillus herbarius	positive		
Alicyclobacillus hesperidum	positive		
Alicyclobacillus macrosporangiidus	positive		
Alicyclobacillus pohliae	positive		
Alicyclobacillus pomorum	positive		
Alicyclobacillus sacchari	positive		
Alicyclobacillus sendaiensis	positive		
Alicyclobacillus vulcanalis	positive		
Lactobacillus spp.	negative		
Acetic acid bacteria	negative		
Pediococcus spp.	negative		
Oenococcus oeni	negative		
Enterobacteriaceae	negative		
Leuconostoc spp.	negative		
Schizosaccharomyces pombe	negative		

Examples of tested yeasts		
Species	Alicyclobacillus	
Saccharomyces spp.	negative	
Zygosaccharomyces spp.	negative	
Dekkera spp.	negative	
Candida spp.	negative	
Debaromyces hansenii	negative	
Klyveromyces marxianus	negative	
Pichia anomala	negative	
Pichia membranaefaciens	negative	

GEN-IAL® products for fruit juice analysis

Product	Description	Tests	Art. No.
GEN-IAL®	DNA preparation		
Simplex® Easy DNA Kit	DNA preparation of beverages	100 preparations	Q001
Simplex® Easy Spin DNA Kit	Alicyclobacillus DNA preparation e.g. from fruit or vegetable juices or concetrates	50 preparations	Q701
GEN-IAL®	Qualitative real-time PCR		
First Alicyclobacillus multiplex PCR Kit	Qualitative identification of Alicyclobacillus spp., Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius and Alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris	48 reactions	Q721 – high profile* Q722 – low profile*** Q723 – white strips** Q724 – low profile*** MyGo Pro



High*

- Agilent MX3005P
- Applied Bioscience ABI 7500 or higher
- •ThermoFisher QuantStudio®5 or higher



White**

- Roche Lightcycler® 480 II and LC96
- BioRad CFX96™
- Analytik Jena qTOWER³
- ThermoFischer PikoReal 24



Low***

- IT-IS MyGo Pro • ABI 7500 FAST
- or higher • BioRad CFX96™

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