



9th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Renewable Energies, Industrial Maintenance, Mechatronics and Informatics

Booklets



RENIECYT - LATINDEX - Research Gate - DULCINEA - CLASE - Sudoc - HISPANA - SHERPA UNIVERSIA - Google Scholar DOI - REDIB - Mendeley - DIALNET - ROAD - ORCID - V|LEX

Title: Xerophilic bioethanol: A modern alternative for biofuel production

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Editorial label ECORFAN: 607-8695
BCIERMMI Control Number: 2024-01
BCIERMMI Classification (2024): 241024-0001
RNA: 03-2010-032610115700-14
Pages: 10

ROR Facultad de Estudios Superiores Cuautitlán	KUD-8337-2024	iD 0009-0006-5363-6688	2055417
ROR Facultad de Estudios Superiores Cuautitlán	HPF-4026-2023	iD 0000-0002-5880-6192	887623
ROR Facultad de Estudios Superiores Cuautitlán	H-3977-2017	iD 0000-0002-2263-0316	165872
ROR Facultad de Estudios Superiores Cuautitlán	LBI-6063-2024	iD 0009-0003-1502-2085	1335433

CONAHCYT classification:
Area: Biology, Chemistry, and Life Sciences
Field: Life sciences
Discipline: Biotechnology
Subdiscipline: Other

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INTRODUCTION

Climate change is the most pressing challenge of our era. Its consequences threaten key sectors such as agriculture, tourism, biodiversity and human health, among others ([Hernández, 2020](#)). Therefore, reorienting efforts is inevitable in the energy and transportation industry, and in view of the aforementioned, several alternatives to generate energy in a sustainable manner are emerging.

Bioethanol production involves the transformation of biomass through thermochemical or biochemical processes to generate a fermentable substrate for biofuel production ([Amaris et al., 2015](#)).

In response to the demand for bioethanol and the multidisciplinary global problem, second generation bioethanol production from xerophytic plants has emerged ([Estrada-Maya et al., 2022](#)). These plants have characteristics that make them resilient to droughts and high temperatures ([Granados-Sánchez et al., 1998](#)). These plants grow in arid and semi-arid regions ([de Almeida, 2019](#)).



Figura 1. Plantas xerófitas (Ortega, 2019 ; Semerel et al., 2023)

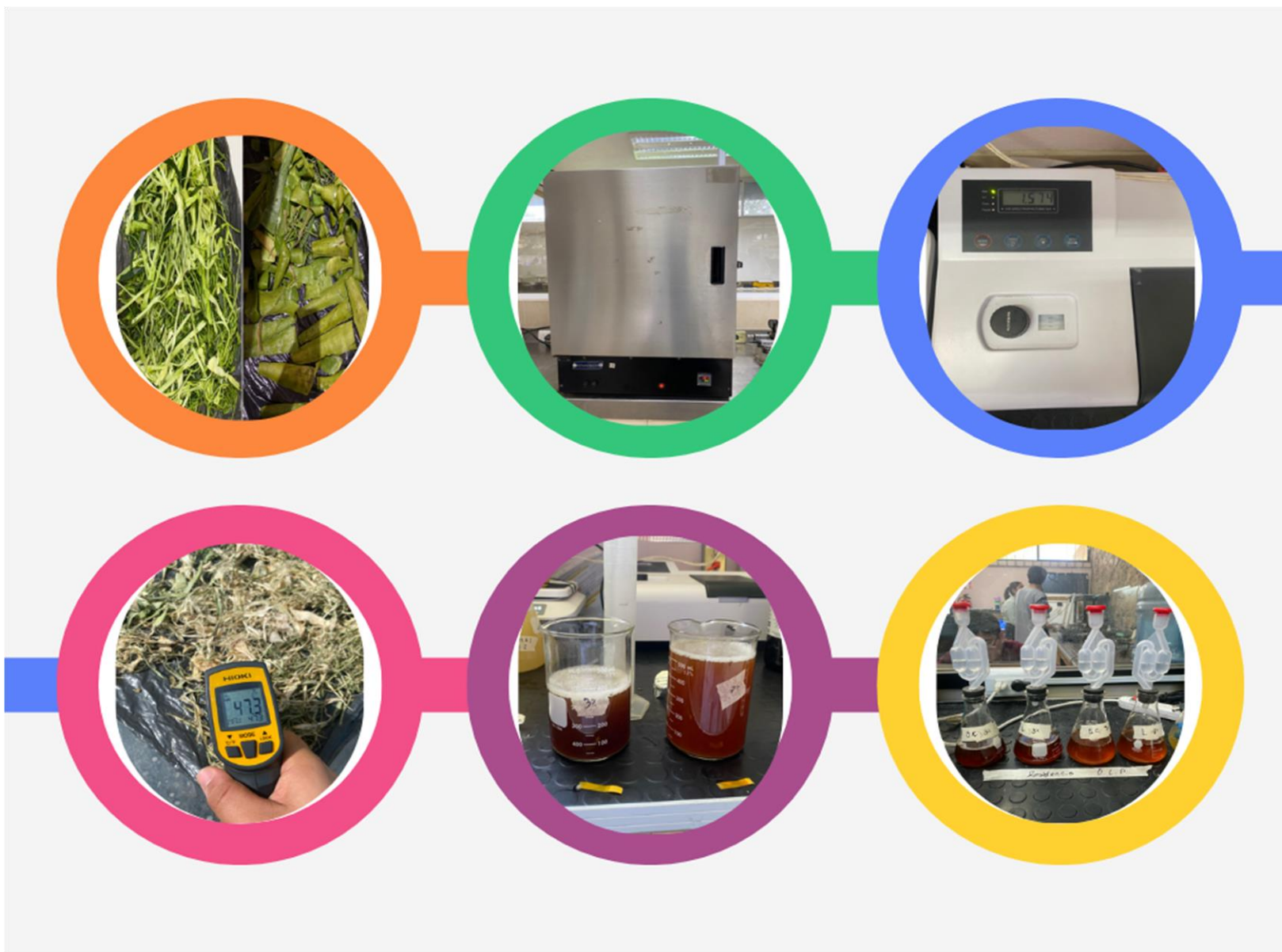


Figure 2. Process diagram



RESULTS

Table 1. Biomass characterization results

BIOMASS CHARACTERIZATION DATA			
BIOMASS	DENSITY (kg/m ³)	MOISTURE (%)	ASH (%)
<i>Aloe barbadensis</i> Miller	965	73.645	1.472
<i>Agave americana</i>	990	76.49	1.628



RESULTS

Culture media with *Lalvin EC-1118* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Comparison of *Lalvin EC-1118* media

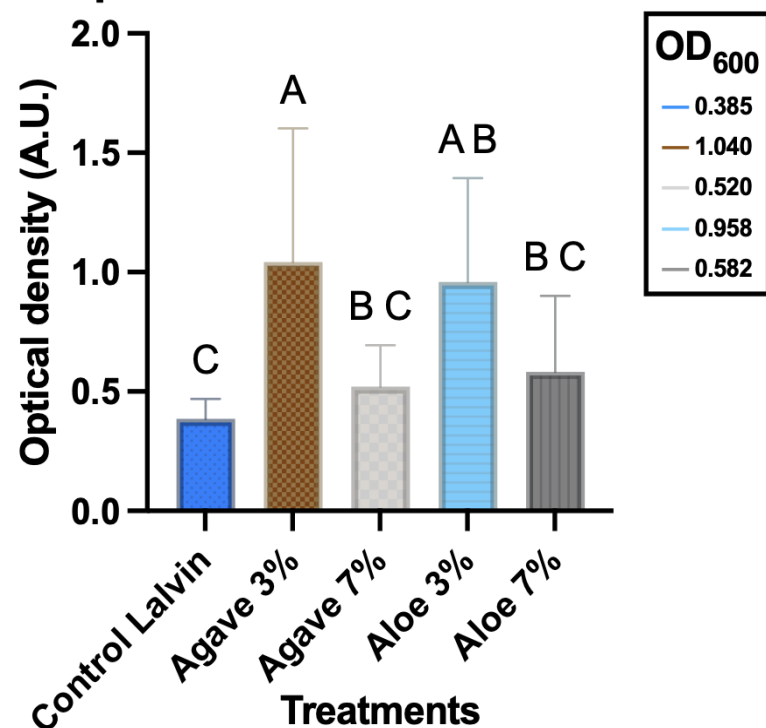


Figure 3. *Lalvin EC-1118* media ANOVA by random columns 95%

Comparison of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* media

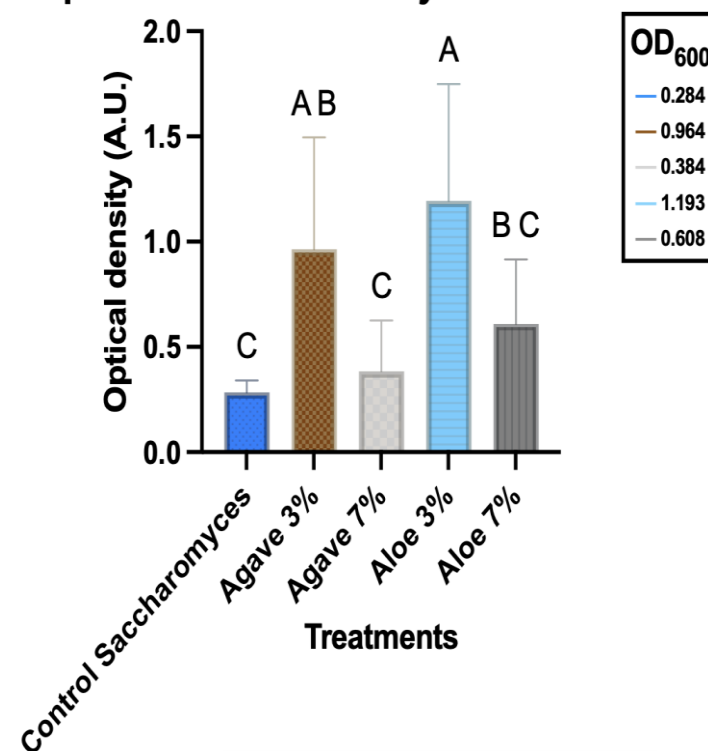


Figure 4. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* media ANOVA by random columns 95%

RESULTS

Comparison of total yeast growth and sugar consumption of the 8 hydrolysates.

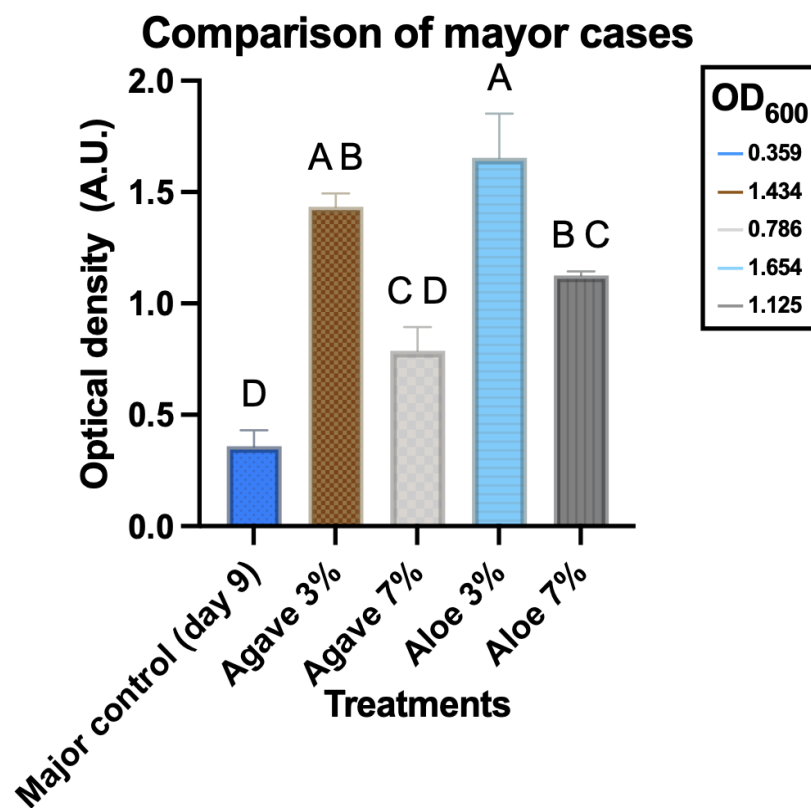


Figure 5. Comparison of percentages

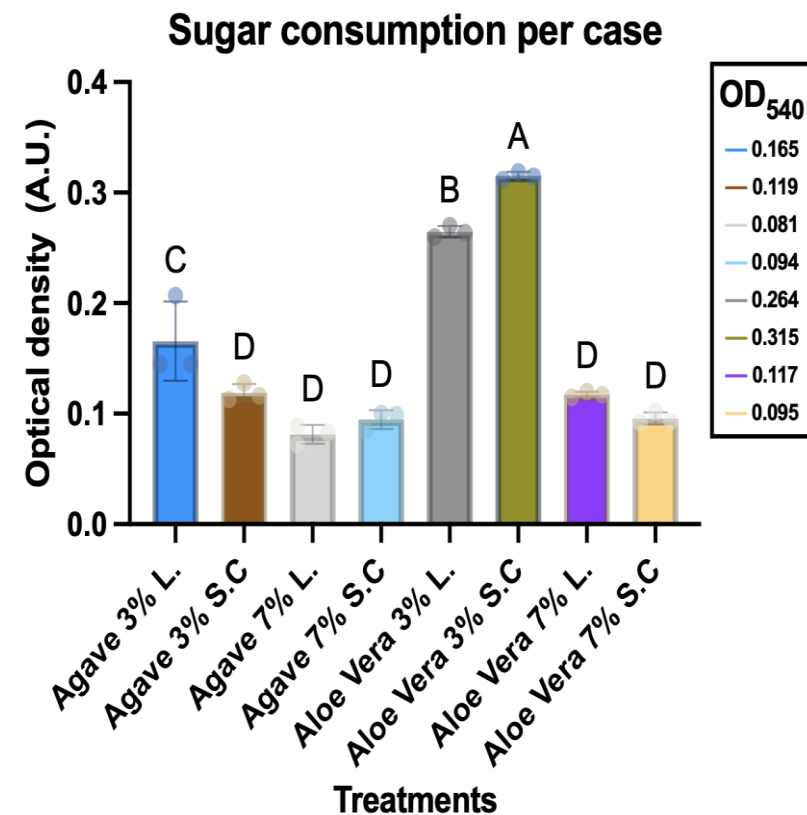


Figure 6. Sugar consumption



RESULTS

Relationship between growth and sugars consumed.

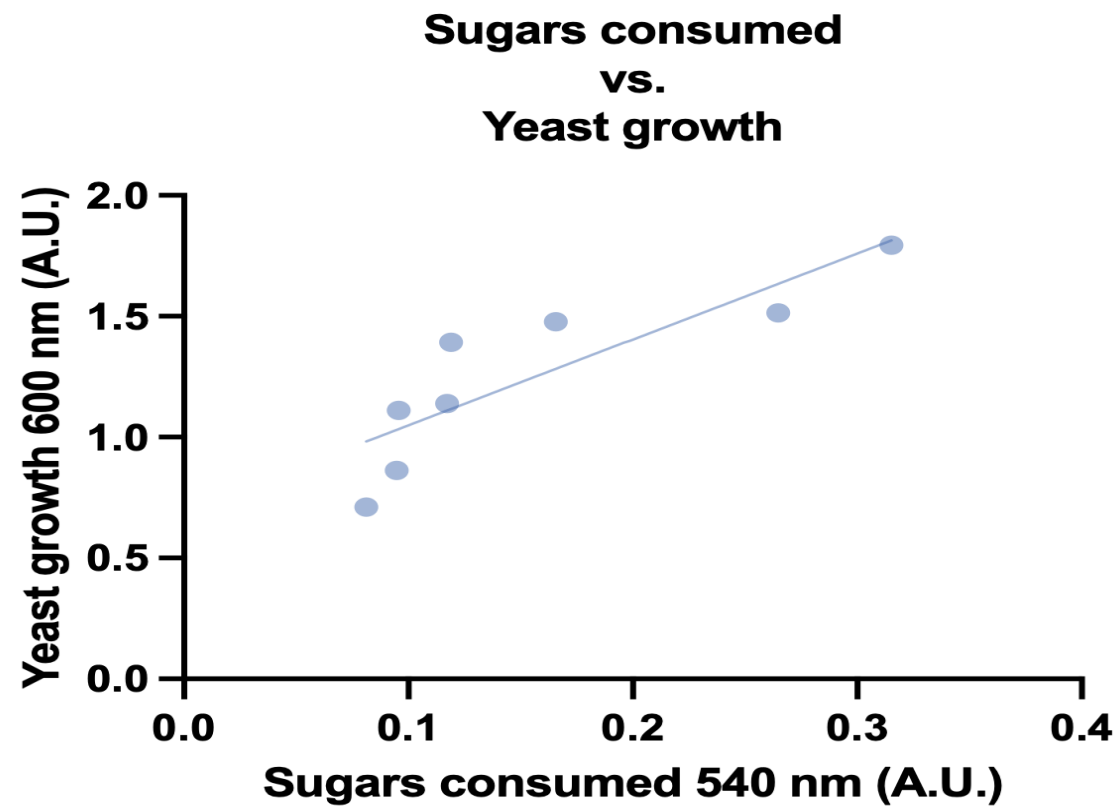


Figure 7. Sugars vs growth, $r = 0.86$
and $p = 0.0062$



CONCLUSIONS

Similarities were observed in the physicochemical properties of the biomass from *Agave americana* and *Aloe barbadensis* Miller. However, *Aloe barbadensis* Miller proved to be the most suitable biomass source.

Regarding the yeasts, *Lalvin EC-1118* showed greater efficiency with the hydrolysates of *Agave americana*, while *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* performed better with *Aloe barbadensis* Miller.

The 3% hydrolysates were the most suitable for yeast growth, while higher concentrations (7%) showed lower sugar availability, possibly indicating excessive hydrolysis.

The consumption of reducing sugars and yeast growth indicated favorable fermentation, showing a direct consumption-growth relationship.

The most optimal case for bioethanol production was *Aloe barbadensis* Miller at 3% with the presence of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* yeast.

The correlation obtained was positive and significant between yeast growth and sugar consumption, giving a value for $r = 0.86$ and $p = 0.0062$, concluding that both are directly proportional.

The authors thank the Instituto Tecnológico de La Laguna for providing the facilities at the time of using the laboratory for the research carried out.

Thanks to the academic staff of PRODEP, ITLAG-CA-10, TecNM and CONAHCyT projects.



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