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Comparative analysis of biohydrogen producing bacterial consortia in three thermophilic anaerobic fluidised bed bioreactors

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Response to Examiner's Comments

Examiner 1 Comments/Suggestions	Current Text and response
Pg 12: Zhang et al 2008, indicate whether it is 2008a or 2008b	Pg 13: Zhang et al 2008a for the first in text reference and both Zhang et al 2008a&2008b for the second in text reference
Pg 13: Zhang et al 2008, indicate whether it is 2008a or 2008b	Pg 14: Zhang et al 2008a stated
Pg 15: Hallenbeck and Ghosh 2011 not listed in the reference section	Pg 16:Hallenbeck and Ghosh 2011 now listed in the reference section
Pg 16: Schink 1997 not listed in reference section	Pg 17: Schink 1997 now listed as a reference in the reference section
Pg 16: Smith et al 1979 not listed in reference section	Pg 17: Reference could not be found, therefore removed from the image
Pg 17: Schink 1997 not listed in reference section	Pg 18:Schink 1997 now listed as a reference in the reference section
Pg 17: Smith et al 1979 not listed in reference section	Pg 18: Reference not tracked, it might have been the wrong date thus Smith et al 1979 was removed as a reference
Pg 19: Gaval or Gavala as it is listed in the reference section	Pg 21: Reference corrected to Gavala on the in text reference
Pg 19:Lin et al 2008 not listed in the reference section	Pg 21:Lin et al 2008 listed as reference in the reference section

Examiner 1 Comments/Suggestions	Current Text and response
Pg 20: Hung et al 2011, Indicate whether it is 2011a or 2011b	Pg 22: Suffix a or b added to the correct in text reference
Pg 25: Endo et al 1982 not listed in the references section	Pg 27: Endo et al 1982 now listed as a reference in the references section
Pg 32: Ahn et al 2000 not listed in the references section	Pg 34:Ahn et al 2000 the date corrected to 2005
Pg37: Sekiguchi et al 2007 not listed in the references section	Pg 39: Sekiguchi et al 2007 now listed as a reference in the reference section
Pg 39: For Figure 13 and all other micrographs a size bar should be included. This will facilitate comparisons between micrographs (e.g. p 49)	Pg 41-43:All micrographs have a scale bar. The images were edited using Image J software and a standard pixel:unit (mm) ratio applied
Pg 43: For Figure 18 and all the phylogenetic trees information on the method of analysis should be included in the legend	Pg 45: All phylogenetic trees have analysis information included in the legend
Pg 44: Reference to Figure 12 in the text may be incorrect?	Pg 46: Reference changed to Figure 17 in the text
Pg 44: Oh et al 2003, please indicate whether it is 2003a or 2003b	Pg 46: In text reference changed to Oh et al 2003b
Pg 44: Doffner et al 1994 not listed in the reference section	Pg 46: Corrected to Droffner and Briton, 1994 and listed in the reference section

Examiner 1 Comments/Suggestions	Current Text and response
Pg 45: Reference to figure 14 in the text may be incorrect?	Pg 47: Reference changed to Figure 19 in the text
Pg 46: Soh et al 1991 not listed in the reference section	Pg 48: Soh et al 1991 now listed as a reference in the reference section
Pg 46: Please provide units for the HRT values stated in the text	Pg 21, 26, 28,29,36 and 49: HRT unit (hour) provided with the HRT values
Pg 50: Reference to Figure 24 in the text may be incorrect?	Pg 56: Figure in text referencing corrected to Figure 28
Pg 56: Which rendered them unidentifiable→which rendered them undetectable	Pg 61 : Sentence corrected
Pg 61: Tao et al 2004 not listed in the reference section(wrongly dated, correct year is 2007)	Pg 65: Tao et al 2007 now listed as a reference in the reference section
Pg 69: Cangenella and Wiegel 2000 could not be located in the text	Pg 73: Reference irrelevant, therefore it was removed from the reference list
Pg 70: Fang et al 2002a could not be located in the text	Pg 74: Reference inserted on pg 13, 15, 17 and 23
Pg 70: Fang et al 2002b could not be located in the text	Pg 74 : Reference inserted on pg 13, 14, 15, 17 and 22
Pg 72: Lin and Chang 1999 could not be located in the text	Pg 76 : Reference inserted on pg 14,17,18 and 20
Pg 72: Morotomi et al 2007 could not be located in the text	Pg 76:Reference irrelevant, therefore it was removed from the reference list
Pg 72: Nath and Das 2004 could not be located in the text	Pg 76: Reference inserted on pg 17,20,70 and 71

Examiner 1 Comments/Suggestions	Current Text and response
Pg 73: Niklaitchouk et al 2000 could not be located in the text	Pg 77: Reference inserted on pg 59
Pg 73: Rainey et al 2003 could not be located in the text	Pg 77: Reference inserted on pg 49
Pg 74: Sung et al reference does not have a date	Pg78: Date added 2002
Pg 74: Sekiguchi et al 2020 →Sekiguchi et al 2002	Pg 78: Corrected and a second Sekiguchi reference added but from 2001