METAGENOMIC STUDY OF BACTERIAL CONTAMINATION IN ETHANOL MILLS IN BRAZIL

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Brazil is one of the largest ethanol producers in the world, producing on average about 24 billion liters

annually. The plants producing ethanol in Brazil use a non-sterile fermentation process resulting in bacterial

contamination during fermentation. To combat them, plants use antimicrobials randomly, a practice that

increase the price of the alcohol beyond to generate resistant bacteria and leave combings on the

environment.

Therefore, identification of contaminants in different industrial environments, it is necessary, as well as

the search for new technologies for the control of contaminants from alcoholic fermentation.

In order to study bacteria contaminations in the process of ethanol production we performed

metagenomic analysis of plants in 2013/2014 seasons using 16S sequence. After amplification of V4

variable region according Caporaso et al., 2011, amplicons were submitted to high throughput sequence on

a MiSeq Illumina machine. Data were analyzed using CLC Workbench package. About 50.000 hits from

each sample were compared with a local database of 16S sequences

Our results confirm the predominance of Lactobacillus spp in fermentation, and the presence of other

contaminants not previously described as Rubrobacter xylanophilus, Cloacibacterium normanense and

Diaphorobacter nitroreducens, which enables the development of personalized treatment.

Metagenomic, bacterial contamination, fermentation, Lactobacillus and NGS

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