

Fruit Juice cell wall degrading Enzymes for liquefaction

* Juice extracted from a wide variety of fruits such as apples, pears, mango and berries is used to produce natural beverages.

* This can be done simply by squeezing the fruits but it is more common to use enzymes to increase the volume of juice produced & the speed of extraction.

* Extraction processes depend upon following parameters

- i) Type of fruit
- ii) Age of fruit
- iii) Maturity of fruit

* Role of Enzymes in juice processing

* Extraction involves maceration (a process of softening tissues by soaking in liquid) followed by pressing to separate the juice from the solids.

* Enzymes can play a key role in these processes in order to,

* Improve yield

* Clarify the juice

* Stability

* Enzymes break down cell walls within the fruits and release liquids and sugars.

- * Pectinases in combination with other carbohydrates degrading enzymes, specially cellulases, are useful in breaking fruit tissues to release more juice
- * Enzymatic maceration can result in extraction of more than 95% of the soluble solids from the fruit.
- * Enzymes are also used to clarify & stabilize the juice by degrading soluble pectins and starches that would cause haze

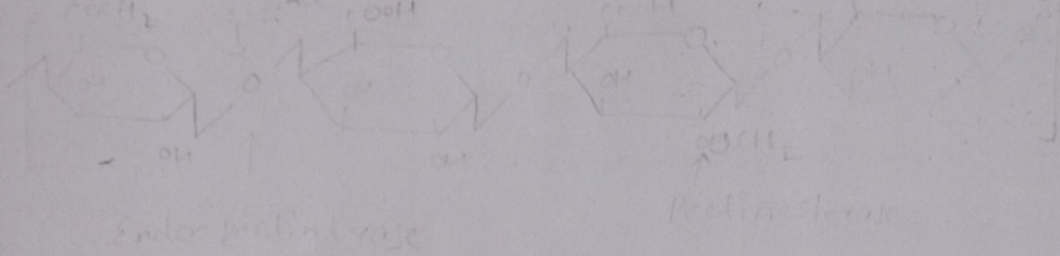
* cell wall

- * Affects the extraction of juice
- * Provides structure & rigidity to pulp
- * Fruit is made up of cells linked by middle lamellae which contain insoluble proto-pectins
- * Pectinases break down the pectin chains & therefore reduce their binding action.
- * Cell wall mainly consists of
 - i) Pectin
 - ii) Cellulose
 - iii) Hemicellulose
 - iv) Lignin & other components

Enzymes used in fruit Processing

1) Pectinases

- * Breaks pectin into simpler units
- * clear the juice and more yield is obtained



Types of Pectinases

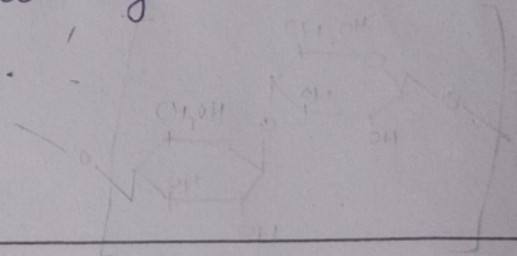
- 1) Polygalacturonase
- 2) Pectin lyase
- 3) Pectin methylesterase

* Native Pectic Enzymes

- * Apples and grapes contain pectic enzymes which can lead to spontaneous clarification of the juices and wines if they are permitted to stand for a considerable length of time.
- * Significant amount of polygalacturonase and pectin methylesterase are found in apple juice.

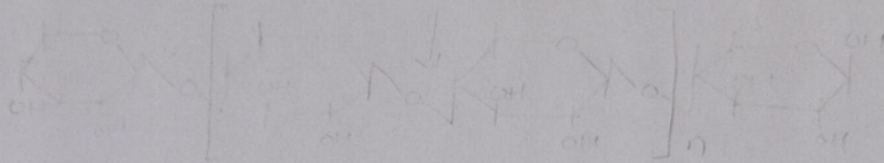
2) cellulase

- * cellulose is a polymer of β -1,4-D-glycopyranosyl units
- * Responsible for the cloudiness in juices.
- * Cellulase is the enzyme used to degrade the cellulose in order to clarify the juice.



3) Hemicellulose (Xylanase)

Mixture of hydrolytic enzymes including xylan endo-1,3- β -xylosidase, xylan 1,4- β -xylosidase, and α -L-arabinofuranosidase presence is encouraged in order to reduce hemicellulose levels.



Xylan

4) Amylase

- * The amylases hydrolyze the glycosidic linkages in polyglucans
- * combine action of amylases on polysaccharides reduces the viscosity

* glucose oxidase

- * During juice processing a considerable air is dissolved in the juice resulting in formation of foam
- * It is undesirable because it reduces the shelf life
- * GO is used for the removal of oxygen from fruit juices & soft drinks

