

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	ABSTRACT	i
	ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	ii
	CONTENTS	iii
	LIST OF TABLES	vi
	LIST OF FIGURES	vii
1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 Rationale	1
	1.2 Literature Review	2
	1.2.1 Bioplastic-producing bacteria	2
	1.2.2 Pathway involving polyhydroxyalkanoate productions	7
	1.2.3 Classification of polyhydroxyalkanoate	10
	1.2.3.1 Number of carbon atom in monomer units	10
	1.2.3.2 Rearrangement of monomer in polymer chain	12
	1.2.4 Applications of polyhydroxyalkanoate	13
	1.2.4.1 Medical and pharmaceutical applications	13
	1.2.4.2 Agricultural applications	13
	1.2.4.3 Biodegradable commodity packaging	14
	1.2.5 Physicochemical composition	14
	1.2.5.1 Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)	14
	1.2.5.2 Fourier-transformed infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	15
	1.2.6 Increasing polyhydroxyalkanoate production	15
	1.2.7 Life cycle assessment (LCA) of bioplastics	16
	1.3 Research Objectives	19

CONTENTS (CONT')

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
2	THEORIES	20
	2.1 Theoretical Background	20
	2.1.1 Microbial community dynamic	20
	2.1.2 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)	22
	2.1.3 Denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis	22
	2.1.4 Ribosomal Intergenic Spacer Analysis (RISA)	24
3	METHODOLOGY	26
	3.1 Materials	26
	3.1.1 Microbial seed	26
	3.1.2 Cultivation medium	27
	3.1.3 Reactors	29
	3.2 Experimental setup	32
	3.3 Analytical methods	32
	3.3.1 Biomass yield	32
	3.3.2 Quantification of glycerol and glucose	33
	3.3.3 PHA structure	33
	3.3.4 Quantitation of PHA	33
	3.3.5 Microbial community dynamic study	34
	3.3.5.1 DNA extraction	34
	3.3.5.2 DGGE analysis	35
	3.3.5.3 DNA sequencing	36
	3.3.5.4 RISA analysis	37
	3.3.6 Optimum conditions of cell growth and polyhydroxybutyrate production	37
	3.3.6.1 Influence cosubstrate and nitrogen sources on PHA production	37
	3.3.6.2 Scaling up into a 10-L fermentor	48

CONTENTS (CONT')

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	39
	4.1 Production of Poly(3-hydroxybutyrate) from Glycerol using Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) Bacterial Community	39
	4.1.1 Growth of glycerol-utilizing microorganisms	39
	4.1.2 PHB production	42
	4.1.3 Microbial Community Dynamics	47
	4.1.4 Scaling up into 10-L reactor	50
	4.1.5 Identification of the biopolyesters	53
	4.2 Influence of Co-substrate and Nitrogen Source on Polyhydroxybutyrate Production from Glycerol	56
	4.2.1 Influence of nitrogen sources on PHB production	56
	4.2.2 Effect of various glucose concentrations supplementation on PHB content	57
	4.2.3 Optimal PHB production in 10-L reactor	62
	4.3 Determining Microbial Dynamics of Polyhydroxyalkanoates Producing Consortium in Waste Glycerol using RISA Technique	66
	4.3.1 Dynamics of microbial community	66
	4.3.2 Identification of polyhydroxyalkanoate-producing bacteria	68
5	CONCLUSIONS	69
	REFERENCES	71
	APPENDIXES A	91
	APPENDIXES B	94
	APPENDIXES C	102

LIST OF TABLES

TABLES	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	Bacterial strains capable of producing PHAs from different carbon sources	3
1.2	Energy requirements for plastics production	18
3.1	Characteristics of influent water after using the UASB of Cho Heng Rice Vermicelli factory	26
3.2	Operational parameters in 10-L experiment	38
4.1	Effect of different glycerol concentrations on biomass and PHB accumulation in shake flasks as a batch culture and incubated at 30°C for 120 h	48
4.2	Effect of reactor size between 1-L reactor and after scaling up into 10-L reactor on biomass and PHB accumulation under cultivation on medium supplemented with 10% v v ⁻¹ glycerol concentration and incubated at 30°C for 120 h	50
4.3	Nucleotide sequences of 16S rRNA gene fragments obtained from the DGGE bands of the amplified samples of bacterial communities from the original granule seeds and after cultivated in each condition	51
4.4	Effect of different glucose concentrations which were supplemented in mineral medium containing 3 g L ⁻¹ (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ as nitrogen source on biomass and PHB accumulation in shaken flasks as the batch culture and incubated at 30°C for 72 and 120 h, respectively.	61
4.5	Effects of different reactor capacities of between 1-L and 10-L on biomass and PHB accumulation at 30°C during on 72 h and 120 h	62
4.6	Nucleotide sequences of 16S rRNA gene fragments obtained from the DGGE bands of the amplified samples of bacterial populations in 10-L bioreactor, cultivating on the mineral medium supplementation with 10% v v ⁻¹ glycerol and 1% w v ⁻¹ glucose as substrates and 3 g L ⁻¹ (NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄ as nitrogen sources during 0, 3 and 5 days, respectively	65
4.7	Comparative analysis of nucleotide sequences of intergenic spacer region fragments obtained from the RISA bands	68

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	PHA biosynthesis in the context of microbial metabolism, the major enzymes involved in PHA biosynthesis	7
1.2	The biosynthetic pathway of PHB and P(HB-HV) in <i>A. eutrophus</i>	8
1.3	The general structure of polyhydroxyalkanoates	10
1.4	A general overview was a list of these polyesters and their grouped relationships	12
1.5	Processing routes for PHA production	17
2.1	Flowchart of the different steps in the study of the structure and function of microbial communities	22
2.2	Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR)	23
3.1	schematic diagram of proposed PHA production from the mixed culture was categorized into 2 main parts	28
3.2	Bacterial cultures in 1-L bottles with different glycerol concentrations of 3, 6 and 9% v v ⁻¹ after 5 days of incubation	29
3.3	The medium was contained in 5-L working volume in 10-L fermentor tank	30
3.4	Activated sludge in 10-L bioreactor	31
4.1	Growth of microbial seed represented with cell dried weight (CDW) per L culture medium on varied (% v v ⁻¹) glycerol concentration including 10, 30, 50 and without glycerol as control. Cultivation was an agitation rate of 200 rpm at 30°C in 1-L flasks (n=4)	46
4.2	Glycerol concentrations versus times (A) and percentages of glycerol utilization (B) of mixed culture in 10, 30, and 50 (% v v ⁻¹) glycerol concentration were cultivated during 168 h by incubation at 30°C using 1-L shaken flasks as a batch culture (n=3)	41
4.3	Effect of various glycerol concentrations on PHB production using 1-L shaken flasks as a batch culture. The cultivations were an agitation rate of 200 rpm, at 30°C for 8 days (n=4)	43

LIST OF FIGURES (Continued)

FIGURE	TITLE	PAGE
4.4	Percentage of PHB content was grown the different glycerol concentrations as carbon source during 192 h incubation at 30°C using shake flasks at an agitation rate of 200 rpm as a batch culture (n = 4)	44
4.5	DGGE profiles of the amplified 16S rRNA gene fragments from original granule seeds (Lane A) while inoculated in a medium without glycerol for 5 days (Lane B). Mixed culture cultivated on broth using 10% v v ⁻¹ glycerol as carbon source during on 5, 10, 15 and 20 days (Left side). DGGE separation patterns of 16S rRNA genes amplified from bacterial cultures communities were grown on medium with 30 and 50% v v ⁻¹ glycerol concentrations as carbon source (Right side)	48
4.6	Fourier-transformed infrared (FTIR) spectra (a) and ¹ H-NMR spectra (b) of partially purified PHA extracted from mixed culture when using 10 % v v ⁻¹ glycerol concentration as C-sources and incubating for 72 h at 30°C, 200 rpm on a rotary shaker	55
4.7	Effect of nitrogen sources at different concentrations on PHB content (%) for 120 h at 30°C, 200 rpm in the shaken flasks	57
4.8	Biomass in the culture media containing 10% v v ⁻¹ glycerol supplemented with (% w v ⁻¹) various glucose concentrations (n=2)	58
4.9	Percentage of PHB contents in the culture media containing 10 % v v ⁻¹ glycerol supplemented with (% w v ⁻¹) various glucose concentrations	59
4.10	The DGGE analysis of bacterial 16S rRNA gene PCR products amplified from the mixed microbial communities. The mixed cultures cultivated in glycerol and glucose as co-carbon sources and (NH ₄) ₂ S ₀ ₄ as the sole nitrogen source within 10-L reactor Lane numbers refer to time series during 0, 3 and 5 days, respectively	63
4.11	The RISA band patterns of the microbial samples collected from the reactor every 5 days	66
4.12	Phylogenetic tree generated by the neighbor-joining method showing the phylogenetic relationships among bacteria isolated from biomass utilizing the glycerol	67