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Production of 2-phenylethylamine by Decarboxylation of L-Phenylalanine in Alkaliphilic *Bacillus cohnii*

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Cellular Polyamine fraction of alkaliphilic *Bacillus* species was analyzed by HPLC. 2-Phenylethylamine was found selectively and ubiquitously in the five strains belonging to *Bacillus cohnii* within 27 alkaliphilic *Bacillus* strains . A large amount of this aromatic amine was produced by the decarboxylation of L-phenylalanine in the bacteria and secreted into the culture medium. The production of 2-phenylethylamine may serve for the chemotaxonomy of alkaliphilic *Bacillus* .