



PACHYMAN AND CURDLAN

11/99

SOURCE:

Pachyman is a 1,3- β -D-glucan derived from the sclerotia of *Poria cocos* (a *Basidiomycetes* sp.). It is reported to contain approx. 100% of 1,3-linked D-glucosyl residues.

Curdlan is produced by *Alcaligenes faecalis* var. *myxogenes* 10C3K. Essentially all of the linkages are 1,3- β -.

PROPERTIES OF PACHYMAN:

Colour: Off-white powder.
Purity: Contains >98% D-glucose essentially all of which is 1,3- β -linked.
Solubility: Insoluble in water at room temperature.
Enzyme susceptibility: Hydrolysed by *endo*-1,3- β -glucanase.

PROPERTIES OF CURDLAN:

Colour: White powder.
Purity: Contains >99% D-glucose essentially all of which is 1,3- β -linked.
Solubility: Insoluble in water. Can be solubilised in 10% sodium hydroxide
Enzyme susceptibility: Resistant to hydrolysis by *endo*-1,3- β -glucanase due to water insolubility of the substrate. Dissolution in sodium hydroxide followed by neutralisation with acetic acid yields an amorphous-type substrate which is more readily attacked by β -glucanase.