

medium supplemented with an inorganic terminal electron acceptor such as nitrate or nitrite. Depending on the growth-limiting factor (glucose or nitrate) the calorimetric heat-flux profile exhibits different metabolic activities. If glucose is limiting and nitrate is in excess, the heat production of the growing population yields a rather symmetrical, bell-shaped thermogram, and an almost quantitative reduction of nitrate to nitrite is observed. If, on the other hand, glucose is in excess and nitrate is growth-limiting, a heat-flux curve with 2 maxima is obtained, where the nitrate supplied is reduced to nitrite about stoichiometrically during the first activity period, and the latter is reduced completely in the 2nd phase under further energy gain. Nitrate reduction as well as nitrite reduction must be coupled to phosphorylation sites, because in both cases growth proceeds. The reduction of the accumulated nitrite after exhaustion of nitrate suggests an inhibitory effect of nitrate on the operation of nitrite reductase.

### Investigation into the microflora of Sarno river

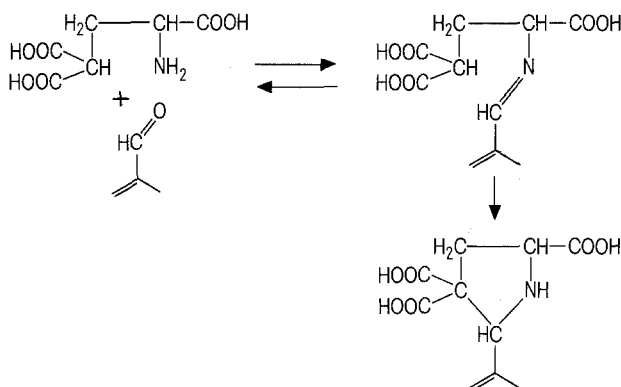
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In this note we report a study on a tract of lower river in which the Ciba-Geigy Antibiotics Factory is located. The fungal flora recorded belongs to terrestrial fungi (Ascomycetes, Fungi Imperfecti and Basidiomycetes) and marine fungi (Ascomycetes, Fungi Imperfecti). Some lower fungi, Thraustochytrid fungi, are also found. The distribution depends on the physical-chemical properties of the water, especially on the salinity variation. The greater part of fungal populations is typical of detritic habitat and consequently is saprobic. In fact the physical chemical tests show that this tract is characterized by waters typical of a polysaprobic environment.

### CORRIGENDA

Laura Pecci, S. Duprè, A. Antonucci and D. Cavallini: Reaction of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate with  $\gamma$ -carboxyglutamic acid, *Experientia* 36, 910 (1980). The reaction scheme (p. 911, left column) should correctly read:



J. Carr, I. Carr, B. Dreher and C.R. Franks: Lymphatic metastasis of tumour; persistent transport of cells, *Experientia* 35, 825 (1979).

Due to a miscalculation of the volume of 1 cm length of polythene tubing, which was 0.628 cm<sup>3</sup> and not 0.0628 cm<sup>3</sup> as stated, the cell counts in the text (though not in the figure) are 10 times too high and the output of cells from the tumour therefore ranges from 10<sup>2</sup> to 10<sup>5</sup> cells per 10 min.

E. Berlin, L. Hellgren, O. Thulesius and J. Vincent: Prostaglandin-like substances in *Propionibacterium acnes*. IV. Effect of isolated human vessels, *Experientia* 36, 197 (1980). The results from 10 experiments are summarized in the following table (not included in the paper).

Responses of isolated human blood vessels towards noradrenaline, PLS and PGE<sub>2</sub>. Values of agonists given in molar concentrations (M). n = number of experiments,  $\Delta T/\Delta t$  = kinetic parameter, characterizing velocity of contraction. Molar concentration of PLS is expressed as PGE<sub>2</sub>-equivalent in gerbil colon bioassay.

	Drug	n	Threshold (M)	ED <sub>50</sub> (M)	Maximum response (10 <sup>3</sup> N/m <sup>2</sup> )	$\Delta T/\Delta t$ (10 <sup>2</sup> N/m <sup>2</sup> · min)
Saphenous vein	Noradrenaline	3	2.5 · 10 <sup>-9</sup>	5.0 · 10 <sup>-7</sup>	3.8	
	PLS	3	2.5 · 10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.3 · 10 <sup>-7</sup>	1.0	
Umbilical artery	Noradrenaline	8	9.5 ± 7.0 · 10 <sup>-7</sup>	1.3 ± 1.0 · 10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.6 ± 0.2	0.8
	PLS	6	6.7 ± 3.3 · 10 <sup>-9</sup>	4.3 ± 2.7 · 10 <sup>-7</sup>	1.9 ± 0.6	4.4
	PGE <sub>2</sub>	8	6.0 ± 4.0 · 10 <sup>-9</sup>	9.0 ± 8.6 · 10 <sup>-7</sup>	2.0 ± 0.5	3.4