

STUDIES ON THE LIPOLYTIC ACTIVITY
IN RUBBER SEED KERNELS

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An increase in the Free Fatty Acid (FFA) content during storage of rubber seed kernels may be attributed to lipase activity induced by endogenous or exogenous lipases or both.

Three fungi namely Aspergillus sp., Penicillium sp. and Mucor sp. isolated from stored rubber seeds have shown lipolytic activity.

The growth of Aspergillus sp. on rubber seed kernel was rapid compared to Mucor sp. at room temperature.

The FFA development in-rubber seed kernels inoculated with Aspergillus sp. and stored for a period of 30 days increased markedly with increased moisture levels. (5%,10%,15%,20%, and 30%).

No endogenous lipase activity was observed in rubber seed extracts using "Api-Z"¹ enzyme kits, but the presence of esterase activity was indicated.

These results reveal that fungal infestation appears to be the main source of lipolytic activity in stored rubber seed kernels.

Reference:

1. Api - System S.A., La Balme les Grottes, 38390
Monthalieu Vericien (France)