

Assessment of olive mill wastewaters bioconversion potential into biotechnological and health interest microbial biomass

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ABSTRACT/RESUME

Abstract: Olive mill by-products which are characterized by powerful antioxidant and recalcitrant compounds to biodegradation represent an important environmental problem. They are produced in huge quantities in short periods of time. Therefore, finding a suitable biovalorization strategy to exploit these by-products is a great interest. In this context, the current study aimed to olive mill wastewaters (OMWW) bioconversion into valuable microbial biomass, oleaginous yeasts, as well as healthy probiotic bacteria as enrichment substrat. This study also describes and discusses the antimicrobial potential of OMWW. Yeasts and bacterial growth was monitored by plating on malt extract agar (MEA) and Man Rogosa and Sharpe Agar (MRSa) agar respectively. The antimicrobial properties of ethyl acetate polyphenolic extracts from fermented and unfermented OMWW were assessed using the disc diffusion method. The experiments trials reveals that the raw OMWW exert a strong inhibition against oleaginous yeasts and probiotic bacteria while substrate dilution or enrichment led to cell growth promoting and polyphenol removal. Moreover, polyphenolic extracts provide a wide antimicrobial spectrum potential against pathogenic and food spoiling bacteria. Thus, OMWW could be considered as a beneficial and valuable nutritional source for microbial biomass production and mainly those are of biotechnological and health interest.

I. Introduction

Because of the growing interest and demand in high dietetic and healthy nutritional value compounds, olive oil production is an expanding industrial sector worldwide which yields reached a value close to 2.89 million tons in 2017 [1]. Olive oil extraction process leads to two residues: a solid fraction, olive mill solid residu (OMSR), resulting from the pressed olive oil vegetation (olive cake or Amegruche in Kabylia region, Algeria) and a liquid fraction, commonly known as OMWW as well as Alpechin, Amurca [2] and Amuredj in Kabylia region. In pressure (traditional method) or three-phase centrifugation process effluents are olive pomace and OMWW, whereas in a two-phase centrifugation oil extraction system, the effluent is

composed of wet olive pomace. The structural characterization of these two natural by-products showed that they are mainly composed of simple and complexes polyphenolic compounds, pectines and prebiotic polysaccharides, organic acids and mineral nutrients variably distributed depending on the employed olive oil extraction process and the agronomic practices [3, 4, 5]. Beside, OMWW are associated to a huge pollution issues due to their color darkness and high content of phenolic compounds. Unfortunately, OMWW are often disposed in evaporation ponds or various environmental receptors leading to strong odor nuisance, soil contamination, plants growth or germination inhibition [3, 5].

OMWW can be considered as serious threat to the aquatic flora and fauna, thus severe effects on

ecological status when directly discharged in stream water and rivers [6]. The darkly high concentrated polyphenols can color aquatic area and the high concentration of reduced sugars can lead to the lowering in the dissolved oxygen concentrations by stimulating the microbial respiration [7]. Due to their high polluting impact, an economical and ecological-friendly sustainable management method must be developed for OMWW. In this context, in recent decade the main challenge for many researchers focused toward the finding of protocols and biotechnological innovations strategies aiming to agro-industrial by-products bioconversion into high added-value products. Chemical composition of OMWW depends on many factors, such as the employed system for oil extraction, the degree of maturity, the time of olive storage and the olive trees varieties [3]. The high values of chemical oxygen demand (COD) and polyphenols concentrations (e.g., phenolic acids, hydroxytyrosol, oleuropein, tannins, flavonols, anthocyanins, etc.), up to 12 g/L [8], makes the OMWW difficult to their management. Some of these polyphenols were reported being responsible for several biological activities, including antibiosis against *Bacillus megaterium* [9] and phytotoxicity [10]. They also appear to be involved in the plants defense against invading pathogens, including bacteria, fungi and viruses [11].

OMWW could be exploited either as a nutritional source for microorganisms growth, bioproducts production and animal feed [3, 5], or as a natural source for polyphenols recovery as well as dietary fiber or prebiotic [4, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16]. Due to their several health benefits and richness in organic compounds, the worldwide researches on OMWW bioconversion and their own bioactive compounds is increasing rapidly. Oleaginous yeasts and probiotic bacteria are considered as interesting and eco-friendly microorganisms for agro-industrial by-products biotechnological exploitation. It should be emphasized that the inhibitory effects of the by-products mainly OMWW must be taken into account in order to improve the bioprocess or the food application if used as supplement. Thus, despite the OMWW beneficial effects, if subjected to use as a food matrix for probiotics food products their effects on these bacteria should be well understood. Probiotic bacteria are well known to provide a wide variety of beneficial health effects, contribute to intestinal balance, play a role in maintaining health and can even improve food quality if incorporated with them [17].

Oleaginous yeasts mainly *Yarrowia lipolytica* and *Cryptococcus curvatus* were reported to have several application in biotechnological industry [18, 19, 20, 21, 22]. Among oleaginous yeasts [23], the most reported productive ones are *Lipomyces starkeyi*, *Rhodospiridium toruloides*, *Cryptococcus curvatus* and *Yarrowia lipolytica* [24, 25, 6, 21, 22].

Biodiesel production using microbial lipids is considered as an alternative to oils production for biodiesel generation. In this later field, the progress of research in lipids biosynthesis using fungi and bacteria is now known and controlled [21, 22]. Application of agro-industrial wastes and co-products in bioprocess provides an alternative way to replace the refined and costly raw materials. In addition, the bulk use of agro-industrial wastes residues will help to solve environmental issues. OMWW bioconversion as well as the antimicrobial and antioxidant potentials of phenolic compounds recovered from olive mill byproducts were reported in scientific literature. However, fewer data are available on OMWW bioconversion in Algeria. In the frame of the present work, the suitability of OMWW as nutritional or enrichment substrates for oleaginous yeast production as well as probiotic biomass was assessed and in our knowledge, no study have been focused on this later field in Algeria.

II. Materials and methods

II.1. Substrate collection

OMWW samples, OMWW1 and OMWW2, were collected respectively, from olive oil extraction press traditional and three phase units located in Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria. The fresh samples were taken directly after oil extraction, from olive *Chamlal* variety, distributed in 500 ml bottles and immediately frozen at -20° C until further uses.

II.2. Microorganisms and cultivation media

All strains used in the current study are from ATCC culture collections (American Type Culture Collection, Rockville) and DSMZ (Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen Zellkulturen, Braunschweig, Allemagne). Yeast and probiotic strains were taken from Pascal institut, Clermont Ferrand (France). OMWW physicochemical characteristics as well as the used yeast and bacterial strains are displayed in tables 1 and 2 respectively. Before each experimental trial, OMWW were defrozen.

The medium of OMWW was sterilized in an autoclave at 121°C for 20 minutes. The serial experiments units for yeasts were performed in 250 ml Erlenmeyer flasks containing 100 ml of the medium and plugged with cotton. Experiments trials were performed on raw OMWW (M), diluted OMWW (DM) and / or enriched with glucose (M-Glu, DM-Glu) or glycerol (M-Gly, DM-Gly) at 3% in both cases [27].

Regarding to probiotic bacteria, fermentations were conducted in MRS broth (MRSB) enriched with raw OMWW. It should be emphasized that in this section of experiments using probiotic bacteria, two different OMWW samples, OMWW1 and OMWW2 were used. Cell growth, for the six

employed probiotic bacteria, was monitored on OMWW2 over 72 h incubation time.

For inoculum production, the yeast and bacterial strains were subcultured respectively on MEA and MRSA media. After 24 h cultivation time, a loop of strain is transferred in their respective broth, MEB and MRSB and incubated for 24 h. The resulting culture broths were subjected to centrifugation for cell harvesting and washing three times. The obtained cells suspensions were used for media inoculation.

II.3. Microbial growth assessment on olive mill wastewaters

Because of the darkness of the OMWW, microorganisms optical densities (OD) measurement was not possible. Consequently, the total colony forming units (CFU) counting of microorganisms was carried out by serial dilution spreading in plate count agar medium for the different inoculated culture media (initial and final count). The microorganisms cell count was carried out following a series of dilution (10^{-1} to 10^{-10}) in sterile physiological water for the different inoculated culture media. Then, 100 μ l were taken from each dilution and spreaded on MEA or MRSA.

II.4. Substrates physico-chemical characteristics

...Substrates characterization (table1) was performed by measuring pH, moisture (MS), total solids (TS), volatil organic matter (VS). The moisture content was assessed by drying at 105°C for 24 h and organic matter (VS) by determining the loss-on ignition at 550°C for 4 h. Total phenolic

compounds content of OMWW extracts were determined using Folin–Ciocalteu reagent [28]. The absorption at a wavelength of 750 nm was determined with a spectrophotometer. Data are expressed as gallic acid equivalents (mg gallic acid/ml OMWW).

Table 1. Physico-chemical characteristics of the used OMWW samples (mean values \pm SD).

Parameters	OMWW1 Press system	OMWW2 Three phase system
TS (g/l)	88.47	95
MS (%)	92.24	89.32
VS (g/l)	83.35	84.9
Polyphenol (g/L)	3.8	4.2
pH	4.89	6.2

II.5. Polyphenol extraction

Polyphenol recovery was performed according to ethyl acetate solvent extraction. The extraction operation was repeated three times for a maximum phenolic compounds recovery. The organic phase rich in phenolic compounds was subjected to evaporation under vacuum in a rotary evaporator at 40°C. The dry extracts were then recovered in a minimum volume of Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (10%) for antimicrobial activity. As well known, ethyl acetate is more effective than other extraction solvents with a high extraction efficiency. The polyphenol of each sample are extracted before and after fermentation by each strain.

Table 2. Microbial strains used in this study.

LB: *Lactobacillus*, CR: *Cryptococcus curvatus*, Y: *Yarrowia lipolytica*.

Probiotic Strains	T°	Yeast strains	T°	Food born and pathogenic strains	T°
<i>Lactobacillus gasseri</i> DSM 20243 (LB ₂)	37	<i>Yarrowia lipolytica</i>	28	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	37
<i>Lactobacillus paracasei subsp paracasei</i> DSM 20312 (LB ₃)	30	MUCL 28849 (Y)		<i>Bacillus cereus</i> ATCC 14579	37
<i>Lactobacillus rhamnosus</i> GG ATCC 53103 (LB ₄)	37			<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC 49452	37
				<i>Bacillus megaterium</i> ATCC 9885	37
<i>Lactobacillus casei</i> DSM 20011 (LB ₅)	30	<i>Cryptococcus curvatus</i>	28	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> ATCC 700603	37
<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> DSM 20054 (LB ₆)	30	ATCC 20509 (CR)		<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	37
<i>Lactobacillus acidophilus</i> DSM 20079 (LB ₇)	37			<i>Pseudomonas marginalis</i> DSM 13124	37
				<i>Brochotrix thermosphacta</i> CIP 103251	28

II.6. Antibacterial activity of polyphenolic extracts.

After strains incubation at their optimal temperature on nutrient agar medium, young colonies were subsequently used for inoculum preparation followed by well homogenization in sterile physiological water and ajustement to an optical density in range of 0.08 to 0.10 at 625 nm, which corresponds approximatively to a concentration of 10^6 to 10^7 CFU/ml.

Disc diffusion method was performed on Mueller-Hinton agar (MHA) medium. Discs of 6 mm in diameter were impregnated with 20 μ l of the different phenolic extracts, previously reconstituted in 10% DMSO and they were gently placed on MHA. Discs impregnated with DMSO served as a negative control. Antimicrobial tests were incubated at the optimum temperature for 24 h, each test was repeated twice under the same conditions of experimentation. Conventional statistical methods were used. All data are presented as mean \pm standard deviation to calculate averages and standard deviations.

III. Results and discussion

III.1. Olive mill wastewaters bioconversion into oleaginous yeasts biomass

OMWW contain a variety of assimilable carbon sources and dietary fibers, thus it could be considered as a valuable nutritional source for microbial growth and mainly those are of biotechnological and health interest. Unlike the result of Yousuf *et al.* [29], yeast strains were not able to grow in the presence of undiluted OMWW without enrichment with organic supplements (table 3, 4 and 5). The cells number decreased after fermentation, which is likely to be related to the lack in oxygen (asphyxiation) and the inhibition exerted by the high concentration of polyphenolic compounds [27]. Regarding to the diluted OMWW without enrichment, cells number for *Yarrowia lipolytica* and *Cryptococcus curvatus* increased to reach a biomass yield of 5.6×10^4 CFU/ml and 5.3×10^5 CFU/ml respectively. This achievement is a great interest for further target metabolites with biotechnological interest such us lipids. As well rewied, oleaginous yeasts mainly *Yarrowia lipolytica* and *Cryptococcus curvatus* may have several applications in biotechnological industry [18, 19, 20, 21, 22]. Moreover, around 30 yeasts strains were identified as oleaginous [23] and the most reported productive ones are *Lipomyces starkeyi*, *Rhodospiridium toruloides*, *Cryptococcus curvatus* and *Yarrowia lipolytica* [21, 22, 24, 25, 26]. When OMWW medium is enriched with inexpensive organic supplements, such as glycerol or glucose, yeast biomass increased. *Yarrowia lipolytica* have shown a remarkable growth compared to *Cryptococcus curvatus*. The cell growth yield of

Yarrowia lipolytica and *Cryptococcus curvatus* on diluted OMWW and enriched with glucose were respectively 1.1×10^5 CFU/ml and 8.9×10^4 CFU/ml for the two strains, whereas the best values were recorded on the medium enriched with glycerol and were respectively 5.3×10^5 CFU/ml and 5.2×10^5 CFU/ml. The study conducted by Dourou *et al.* [27] on diluted OMWW enriched with glycerol and fermented by *Yarrowia lipolytica*, have shown that this strain consumes preferentially glycerol for OMWW bioconversion into mannitol and / or citric acid. It can also convert it into biomass rich in protein of high nutritional value. *Yarrowia lipolytica* is a nonpathogenic dimorphic aerobic yeast with ability to grow in hydrophobic environments thus allowing this yeast to metabolize triglycerides and fatty acids as carbon sources leading to biomass growth. From the tables 3 and 6, in the experiments undertaken using raw enriched OMWW and diluted one, the medium led to the decrease in cell number after incubation time, thus only cell survival was detected.

Table 3. Cell growth (CFU/ml) assessment on OMWW1 and OMWW2 (*) for lactobacilli.

Culture medium	Initial pH	Strain	Produced biomass yield	Final pH
M-Glu	4.91	Y	0	4.1
		CR	0	4.2
M-Gly	4.85	Y	0	4.11
		CR	0	4.2
DM	4.9	Y	5.6×10^4	4.79
		CR	5.3×10^5	4.77
DM-Glu	4.77	Y	1.1×10^5	4.01
		CR	8.9×10^4	4.3
DM-Gly	5.77	Y	5.3×10^5	4.05
		CR	5.2×10^5	4.09
M-MRS	5.22	LB ₄	6.5×10^7	4.02
			$8.6 \times 10^{8*}$	
		LB ₅	2.6×10^6	4
DM	5.17	LB ₄	0	5.1
		LB ₅	0	5.01

Table 4. Produced biomass (CFU/ml) of *Yarrowia lipolytica* on OMWW1.

Cultivation medium	Final biomass	Produced biomass yield
M-Glu-Y	$2.31 \times 10^4 \pm 31^*$	0
M-Gly-Y	$2 \times 10^3 \pm 0^*$	0
DM-Y	$1.47 \times 10^5 \pm 32$	0.56×10^5
DM-Glu-Y	$2.05 \times 10^5 \pm 10$	1.1×10^5
DM-Gly-Y	$6.5 \times 10^5 \pm 7$	5.3×10^5

(*) Cell survival

Table 5. Produced biomass (CFU/ml) of *Cryptococcus curvatus* on OMWW1.

Medium	Final biomass	Produced biomass yield
M-Glu	$1.4 \times 10^4 \pm 13^*$	0
M-Gly	$2.4 \times 10^3 \pm 5^*$	0
DM	$6.15 \times 10^5 \pm 6$	5.3×10^5
DM-Glu	$2.02 \times 10^5 \pm 3$	8.9×10^4
DM-Gly	$6.3 \times 10^5 \pm 14$	5.2×10^5

(*) Cell survival

Yarrowia lipolytica cultivation on raw enriched OMWW led to the decrease in biomass but reduced the polyphenol concentration from 252.6 to 62.6 and 213 to 49.5 mg/g TS, respectively for M-Glu and M-Gly media. Biomass increased in DM and diluted enriched OMWW, DM-Glu and DM-Gly, for both yeast strains.

A decrease in pH values are also recorded in all cases (table 3), this is probably associated to the cell growth and a subsequent acidification. Medium acidification and polyphenol removal where no growth was recorded or under stress condition such as raw OMWW, certainly indicate the secretion of enzymatic activities for polymeric organic compounds and polyphenol degradation or

glucosidases production which are specialised in deglycosylation of the conjugated polyphenols to polysaccharides. This allow to suggest that this enzymatic activities likely occurred to overcome the inhibitory effect of the complexes toxic substrates. A remarkable growth was noticed for *Yarrowia lipolytica* in addition to polyphenol removal on DM from 207.6 to 43.5. Polyphenol reduction is mainly pronounced for the same strain in raw (M) and diluted OMWW without enrichment (DM). Similar results were reported by Dourou *et al.* [27] with a remarkable phenolic removal by strains of *Yarrowia lipolytica* and other yeasts strains like *Candida tropicalis* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Cryptococcus curvatus also led to the decrease in polyphenol concentration when cultivated in M-Gly and DM media. Beside, enrichment in diluted OMWW led to biomass production with only slight polyphenol reduction. It should be concluded that a significant growth were recorded for yeast strains as well as probiotic bacteria (table 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). The growth of yeasts produced a significant reduction in polyphenolic content. When a feed stock was diluted, a significant increase in growth was noticed leading to a lower level in phenolic compounds content. *Yarrowia lipolytica* seem to be interesting for further investigation.

Table 6. Polyphenol concentrations expressed in mg of gallic acid equivalent/g TS

Sample	Polyphenol (mg EAG/g TS)	Sample	Polyphenol (mg EAG/g TS)
M	274±6	DM-Glu-Y	102.6±8.0
M-Glu	252.6±1	DM-Glu-CR	120.4±3.2
M-Glu-Y	62.6±3.6	M-MRS	205.5±1.5
M-Glu-CR	195.7±1.9	M-MRS-LB ₅	102.8±1
M-Gly	213.1±2.3	M-MRS-LB ₄	105.5±8.3
M-Gly-CR	134.9±3.1	DM	199.9±15.3
M-Gly-Y	49.5±2.5	DM-LB ₅	150.9±1.5
DM-Gly	165.5±5.5	DM-LB ₄	180.6±2.4
DM-Gly-CR	136.5±3.5	DM	207.6±3.6
DM-Gly-Y	145.3±4.7	DM-Y	43±5.6
DM-Glu	136.7±2.5	DM-CR	155.8±0.6

III.2. Olive mill wastewaters bioconversion into probiotic biomass

III.2.1 Experiment trials using OMWW1

This experiment trials describe the effect of OMWW on probiotic bacterial growth and survival over 72 h cultivation time (figure 1). As well known, lactic acid bacteria grow well on MRS medium and biomass or metabolites production requires less expensive media. Therefore, the use of low cost substrates or growth media like food processing wastes is a great of interest. In their experiments, Yin

et al. [30], the results indicate that kitchen waste could be used for the economic production of probiotics. Beside, several studies focused on the optimization of the growth medium of probiotic strains. The biomass of lactobacilli increased considerably in OMWW enriched with MRS medium compared to MRS without OMWW addition (table 3, 7, 8 and figure 1). In fact, biomass production and polyphenol removal, around 50%, were recorded in M-MRS medium. Biomass yield recorded for *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* was 6.5×10^7

CFU/ml and 2.6×10^6 CFU/ml for *Lactobacillus casei*.

Table 7. Produced biomass (CFU/ml) of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* on OMWW1.

Medium	Final biomass	Produced biomass
M-MRS	$6.7 \times 10^7 \pm 2$	6.5×10^7
DM	ND	0

Table 8. Produced biomass (CFU/ml) of *Lactobacillus casei* on OMWW1.

Medium	Final biomass	Produced biomass
M-MRS	$2.75 \times 10^6 \pm 7$	2.6×10^6
DM	$1.55 \times 10^2 \pm 49.5^*$	0

(*) Cell survival

III.2.2. Experiment trials using OMWW2

As displayed in figure 1, probiotic bacteria were able to survive and proliferate in the presence of OMWW which is well documented to be highly resistant to biodegradation, thus difficult to use for biological conversion because of the antimicrobial effect of their phenolic compounds [31, 32].

OMWW exhibit a growth promoting effect on probiotic bacteria in both samples, press modern and three phase system OMWW, thus suggesting that diluted OMWW incorporation in food might be proposed for its beneficial human health effects in a regard to probiotic growth stimulating in addition to antioxidant activities and antidiabetic effect recently reported by Senani-Oularbi *et al.* [33]. In addition, Ramos *et al.* [34] demonstrated the breast cancer antiproliferative effect of olive oil by-products hydroxytyrosol-rich extracts. The current findings are in agreement to the study of Giavasis *et al.* [35]. These researchers demonstrated that polyphenol from OMWW in liquid culture media exerted a clear stimulation for certain lactobacilli. Moreover, as described below, bioconversion process decreased polyphenolic content, this could be due to the change in polyphenolic profile, cell wall adsorption or depolymerisation by probiotic bacteria leading to beneficial nutritional value if used for health [36, 37, 38, 39]. In fact, additional advantages were recently reported on OMWW, hypoglycemic and prebiotic effects have been stated, respectively for diluted OMWW, polyphenol and their purified polysaccharide extracts [4, 33]. Nadour *et al.* [4] reported the antioxidant and prebiotic activities of polysaccharidic fractions from OMWW as well as their ability to be fermented by lactobacilli while Senani-Oularbi *et al.* [33] evidenced that OMWW could reduce blood glucose through intestinal glucose transport inhibition after glucose oral administration in mice. Moreover, in their investigation, Gerasopoulos *et al.* [40] used a membrane retentate of OMWW as antioxidant

ingredient for piglet feed. A higher total antioxidant capacity, glutathione and catalase activity were recorded both in its blood and tissues, with lower oxidative and stress-induced damage to lipids and proteins, than the control group.

The increase in antioxidant activity after *Lactobacillus* fermentation has been already reported by Kachouri *et al.* [41] where a new aromatic structures compounds appeared. From the achieved results, as described above, enriched OMWW1 and OMWW2 didn't exhibit any significant inhibition against the growth of probiotic bacteria mainly *Lactobacillus paracasei*, *Lactobacillus rhamnosus*, *Lactobacillus casei*. It should be noticed that the microbial growth of the strains of *Lactobacillus paracasei*, *Lactobacillus rhamnosus*, *Lactobacillus casei* is more pronounced in M-MRS medium, compared to the control, it reached respectively values of 2.69×10^8 CFU/ml, 3.77×10^{10} CFU/ml and 2.47×10^8 CFU/ml in stationary phase after 48 h of incubation time (figure 1). This is probably related to a beneficial effect of OMWW due to the presence of metabolisable components as well as the prebiotic polymers which have favorable effect to strains development thus stimulating the growth as well studied by our laboratory colleagues [4]. In agreement to the current results, some studies reported that a combined action of dietary fiber and phenolic compounds stimulated the growth of probiotic cells and inhibited the pathogenic strains. In addition, Lopez *et al.* [42] confirmed the positive effect of tea infusions on probiotic bacteria (*Lactobacillus acidophilus* L10 and *Lactobacillus paracasei* L26) survival. This is likely related to their need and ability to take its energy from polyphenols bioconversion using β -glucosidase, β -galactosidase and/or rhamnosidase activities in order to survive. These enzymes are involved in the metabolism of glycosylated flavonols [42, 62]. However and according to Lara-villoslada *et al.* [43] high phenolic acid concentrations (1000 mg/ml) might limit the in vivo viability of Lactobacilli as noticed in the current investigation when using raw or diluted OMWW for probiotic strains cultivation. Moreover, Nadour *et al.* [4] stated that the strains of *Lactobacillus gasseri*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus brevis* and *paracasei* have shown a difficulty in growth on dietary fiber, alcohol-insoluble residue and soluble fraction extracted from OMWW which was probably related to the bactericidal effect of the residual phenolic compounds in the polysaccharidic extracts. *Lactobacillus plantarum* and *Lactobacillus paracasei* have been also assessed for OMWW treatment and led to polyphenols removal in range of 46% and 50% respectively [44, 45].

Beside, as reported by Avila *et al.* [46] Lactobacilli strains like *Lactobacillus plantarum* and *Lactobacillus casei*, as well known, were able to release and express β -glucosidase activity, which

could play an important role in dietary fiber hydrolysis as well as polyphenols liberation from those are conjugated to polysaccharides and fats. Regarding to *Lactobacillus Bevis*, cells number increased to reach a value of 8.1×10^7 CFU/ml in the stationary phase after 48 h in M-MRS medium against a maximum value of 2.41×10^8 CFU/ml recorded after 24h in MRS which decrease over time to a final value of $1.62.10^7$ CFU/ml. This behaviour could be related to microbiocidic effect of the released phenolic compounds from their inactive conjugated form to the active one. In fact, Cueva *et al.* [47] investigated the antimicrobial activity of phenolic acids against a panel of bacteria, lactobacilli (*Lactobacillus paraplantarum* LCH7, *Lactobacillus plantarum* LCH17, *Lactobacillus fermentum* LPH1, *Lactobacillus brevis* LCH23,

Lactobacillus coryniformis CECT 5711, *Lactobacillus coryniformis* CECT 5711) and pathogens (*Staphylococcus aureus* EP167 and *Candida albicans* MY1055). These authors noticed that all the strains studied were sensitivities towards the phenolic compounds and only slight differences were observed between their established growth curves. It should be emphasized that even the polyphenolic concentrations decreased their bioactivities, antibacterial and antioxidant activities (the later not reported here), could remain interesting as it is described below. Thus, it can be concluded that these bioactivities are not only related to polyphenol concentration in the extracts but also to their synergetic effect and qualitativ profiles which might remain important after fermentation.

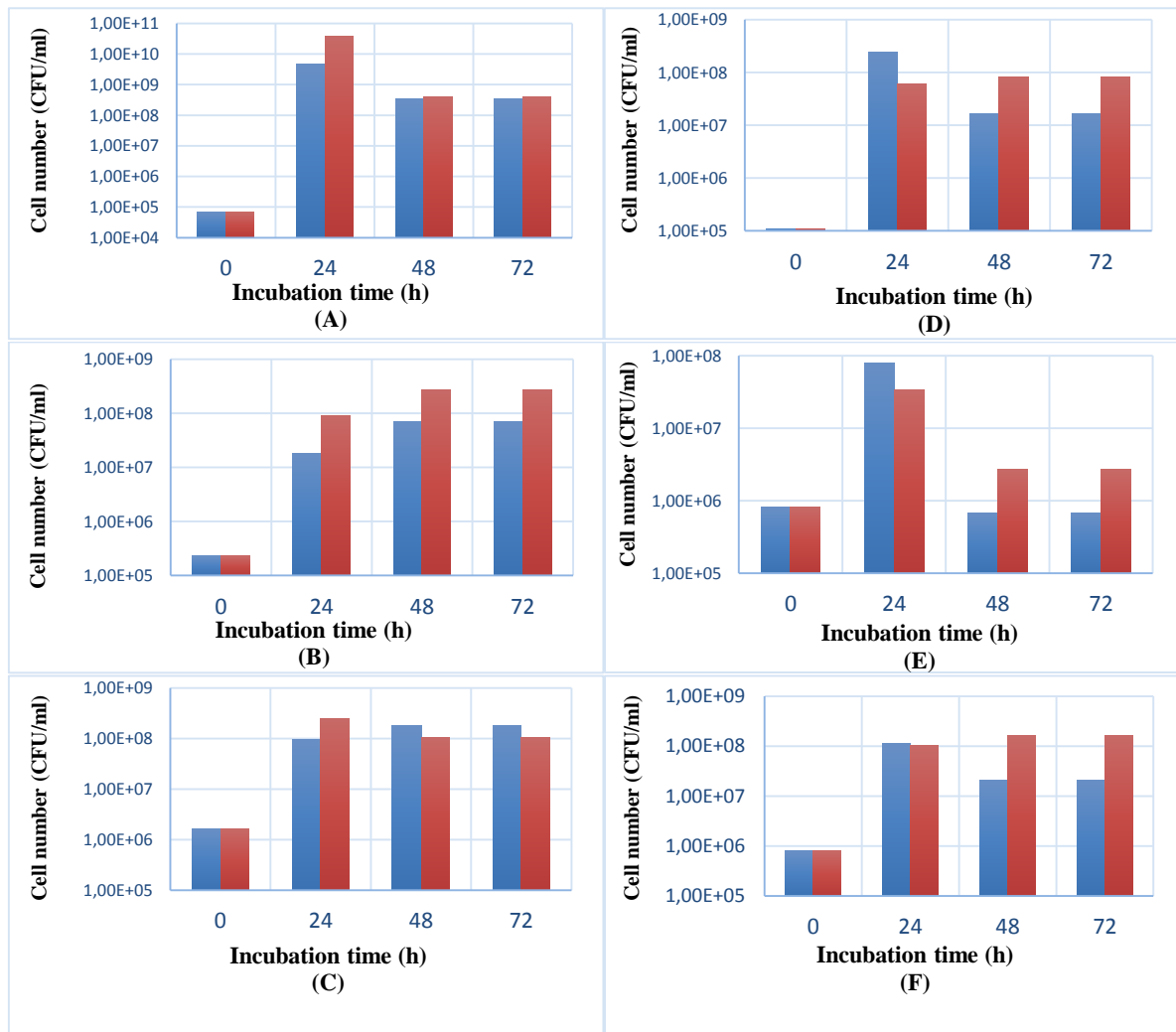


Figure 1. Probiotic growth on MRS enriched with OMWW2. MRS control (blue). MRS-OMWW (red). (A) *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* ; (B) *Lactobacillus paracasei* ; (C) *Lactobacillus casei* (D) ; *Lactobacillus brevis* ; (E) *Lactobacillus acidophilus* ; (F) *Lactobacillus gasseri*.

III.3. Antibacterial activities

Antimicrobial effect of polyphenolic extracts before and after press traditional OMWW fermentation was observed for the overall polyphenolic extracts against a panel of bacterial strains. The *in vitro* tests reveals an interesting antimicrobial effect of OMWW1 extracts. Several studies reported the antimicrobial effect of olive polyphenols [2, 48, 49, 51, 52] as well as antifungal and antimycotoxins activities [16, 49, 50, 52, 53]. In fact, the stronger inhibitory effect of polyphenols could be attributed to their acidic side chain, which makes easy their own transport through the cell membrane due to the low polarity. Polyphenols could affect membrane lipids by a neutralization of the membrane's electric potential following penetration of the molecule [32]. Antibacterial activities are related to the phenolic acid especially caffeic acid, vanillic acid, p-coumaric acid, and 4-hydroxybenzoic acid [54]. Tafesh *et al.* [55] suggested that the use of a combination of polyphenols extracted from OMWW is effective against several human pathogens. The inhibition zones displayed in tables 9 a and 9 b, show that the antibacterial activities of the extracts were slightly different against the used bacterial strains.

As it can be seen, OMWW1 polyphenolic extracts are effective against Gram-positive bacteria with diameter zones between 8.5 and 13.5 mm. The maximal inhibition zones were recorded against *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 25923 (12 mm) and *Bacillus cereus* ATCC 14579 (10 mm) while the minimal inhibition zones were noticed against

Enterococcus faecalis ATCC 49452 (9.5 mm) and *Bacillus megaterium* ATCC 9885 (10 mm). It must be emphasized that the poor results performance of disc method could be attributed to low diffusion of the extract on the agar surface. In a regard to Gram-negative bacteria, the extracts exerted an inhibition zone of 10 mm against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853 whereas it didn't exceed 9 mm against *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ATCC 700603. Abu-lafi *et al.* [52] recorded diameter zones in range of 23-25 against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Echerichia coli*. The extract from fermented M-MRS with *Lactobacillus casei* gave a remarkable inhibition against *Brochotrix thermosphacta* with a value of 13.5 mm. This is certainly due to the different chemical agents present in the extracts as well as the combined action (synergy) of different phenolic compounds.

Raw OMWW were reported being highly toxic to both phytopathogenic *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *Savastanoi* (Gram-negative), *Corynebacterium michiganense* (Gram-positive), *Clavibacter Michiganensis subsp.* and showed growth inhibition and bactericidal activity [56, 57].

Other investigations stated that *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes* have a higher sensitivity to phenols derived from several olive matrices (e.g olive oil, olive leaf and purified compounds [58, 59]. Esmail *et al.* [60] stated the antibacterial effects of raw concentrated OMW against reference and uropathogenic strains and Belaqziz *et al.* [61] observed inhibitory effect of ethyl acetate extract against *Staphylococcus aureus* (DPC5246).

Table 9(a). Inhibition zones diameters exhibited by OMWW1 polyphenolic extracts against the food spoiling and pathogenic bacterial strains (means \pm SD).

	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	<i>Pseudomonas marginalis</i>	<i>Brochotrix thermosphacta</i>
M	11.5 \pm 0	8.5 \pm 1.5	10 \pm 0	12.5 \pm 0
M-Glu	7 \pm 0.56	10 \pm 0	-	7 \pm 0
M-Glu-Y	7 \pm 0.56	10 \pm 0	7 \pm 0	8 \pm 0
M-Glu-CR	6.5 \pm 0.49	10 \pm 0	-	8 \pm 0
M-Gly	8.5 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 0.5	-	7.5 \pm 0.5
M-Gly-CR	8.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.5	-	-
M-Gly-Y	9 \pm 0	9.5 \pm 0.5	-	7 \pm 0
DM-Gly	-	8.5 \pm 0.5	-	-
DM-Gly-CR	-	7.5 \pm 0.5	7 \pm 0	-
DM-Gly-Y	-	7.5 \pm 0.5	-	-
DM-Glu	6.5 \pm 0.49	9 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0.5
DM-Glu-Y	6.5 \pm 0.49	7.5 \pm 0.63	7 \pm 0.56	7.5 \pm 0.5
DM-Glu-CR	7 \pm 0.56	9 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0.63	9 \pm 1
M-MRS-LB₄	7 \pm 0.56	7.5 \pm 0.5	7.5 \pm 0.63	7.5 \pm 0.63
M-MRS-LB₅	7.5 \pm 0.63	7.5 \pm 0.5	7.25 \pm 0.60	13.5 \pm 0
DM-LB	7.5 \pm 0.63	10 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0.63	8 \pm 0
DM-LB₅	7.5 \pm 0.63	9 \pm 0	7 \pm 0.56	8 \pm 0
DM-LB₄	7 \pm 0.56	9.5 \pm 0.5	6.75 \pm 0.53	8.5 \pm 0.5
DM	7 \pm 1	10 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.5
DM-Y	8.5 \pm 0.5	10 \pm 0	7.75 \pm 2.5	8 \pm 1
DM-CR	6.5 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 0.5	6.75 \pm 0.25	8 \pm 1

Table 9(b). Inhibition zones diameters exhibited by OMWW1 polyphenolic extracts against the food spoiling and pathogenic bacterial strains (means \pm SD)

	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	<i>Bacillus megaterium</i>
M	12 \pm 0	10 \pm 0	9 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 0.5
M-Glu	8.5 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 0	-
M-Glu-Y	10 \pm 0	10 \pm 0	9.5 \pm 0.5	6.5 \pm 0.5
M-Glu-CR	11 \pm 1	9.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.6	-
M-Gly	8.5 \pm 0.5	7 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 0	7.5 \pm 0.5
M-Gly-CR	8.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.5	7 \pm 0	7 \pm 0.5
M-Gly-Y	11 \pm 1	9.5 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 1	8.25 \pm 0.75
DM-Gly	7.5 \pm 0.5	8 \pm 0	-	-
DM-Gly-CR	7.5 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 1	-	-
DM-Gly-Y	7.5 \pm 0.5	8 \pm 0	-	-
DM-Glu	9.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.5	-	7.75 \pm 0.25
DM-Glu-Y	8 \pm 0	8.5 \pm 0.5	-	7 \pm 0
DM-Glu-CR	9 \pm 0	9 \pm 0	9 \pm 0	7.75 \pm 0.25
M-MRS-LB₄	7 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 0.5	8 \pm 0	9 \pm 0
M-MRS-LB₅	8.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 0.5	8 \pm 0	10 \pm 0.5
DM-LB	9.5 \pm 0.5	9.5 \pm 0.5	8 \pm 0	6.5 \pm 0.5
DM-LB₅	9 \pm 0	9 \pm 1	8 \pm 0	7 \pm 0.5
DM-LB₄	8.5 \pm 0.5	8.5 \pm 1.5	7.5 \pm 0.5	6.75 \pm 0.5
DM	7.5 \pm 0.6	9 \pm 0	7 \pm 0	8.5 \pm 0.5
DM-Y	10 \pm 0	9.5 \pm 0.5	7.5 \pm 0.5	8.25 \pm 0.75
DM-CR	9.5 \pm 0.5	9 \pm 1	7.5 \pm 0.5	7.5 \pm 0.5

IV. Conclusion

Olive mill wastes are sources with a wide array of biological exploitation. Diluted and enriched OMWW allowed the growth and survival of oleaginous yeasts and probiotic bacteria. Thus OMWW could be proposed as feedstock for oleaginous yeasts as well as a food matrix enrichment for probiotics food products in addition to their beneficial health polyphenols. Bioconversion technology of diluted or enriched OMWW by low cost substrates, glucose or glycerol, could lead to microbial biomass or biomolecules production with biotechnological interest. Moreover, when a feed stock was diluted or enriched, a significant growth was noticed leading to phenolic compounds removal. However, the current investigation is a proof of concept that need further detailed study to ensure sufficient and fast growth in a larg scal process. In addition, the obtained results revealed that OMWW could be considered as a beneficial source of bioactive compounds, especially polyphenols. The use of natural phenolic compounds rather than the toxic synthetic antimicrobial and antioxidants biopreservatifs in food control, medical device is in great of interest. Other pertinent considerations need to be considered when these products will added to the food such as organoleptic

traits and incorporation method. The extraction of valuable compounds from yeasts grown on OMWW, such as lipids, including phenolic compounds, could represent an interesting biovalorization route for these agro-industrial by-products, leading to high added value products. In addition, it would be advantageous to characterize qualitatively the residual phenolic compounds present in these by-products by chromatographic coupled to mass spectrometry method.

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