

The various nuances of kefir yesterday and today

Thursday, October 14th 2021 Billund Denmark



INTRODUCTION



Kefir, is traditionally recognized as acid-alcholic fermented milk with helthy featurs

Nowadays, the word kefir is addressed to a wide range of fermented milk

Cultures as a natural solution to prevent the most known issues



Kefir is a traditional, acidic, slightly alcoholic, fermented milk from the Caucasian regions, which is popular in Eastern European countries.

Kefir grains are used as a starter.

They are gelatinous and irregular particles with a diameter of about 8–10 mm, which are composed of: a mixture of LAB (mainly lactobacilli), lactose-fermenting yeasts, and acetic acid bacteria.

The cells are embedded in kefiran, an HePS composed of glucose and galactose, which is produced by *La. kefiranofaciens*.

Kefiran is the matrix of the kefir grains and plays an important role in maintaining the ecological niche. It has a protective function when the grains are recovered, dried, and re-used for successive milk inoculations. Physical contact between both *La. kefiranofaciens* and *Saccaromyces caerevisiae* seems to be responsible for stimulation of the kefiran production by *La. kefiranofaciens* in mixed culture.



Starters

Kefir grains are white or slightly yellow and incorporate a microflora including:

A – lactic acid bacteria , B – acetic acid bacteria

C - yeasts, D - mould *Geotrichum candidum*, and various contaminants.

The indigenous microflora of kefir grains is variable.

The lactic microflora of 'grain starter' consists of:

<u>Lactococcus</u> lactis subsp. lactis and cremoris, homofermentative and heterofermentative <u>lactobacilli</u> (15 species),

<u>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</u> subsp. dextranicum,

Streptococcus thermophilus.

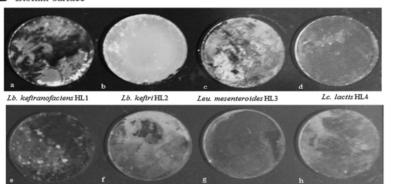
Yeasts of the genera <u>Saccharomyces</u>, <u>Kluyveromyces</u>, <u>Candida</u>, <u>Mycotorula</u>, <u>Torulopsis</u>,

Cryptococcus, Torulaspora, Pichia,

acetic acid bacteria <u>Acetobacter</u> aceti and Acetobacter racens.

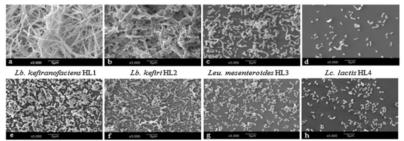


B Biofilm surface



Lc. lactis subsp.cremoris TL1 Leu. mesenteroicles TL2 Lc. lactis subsp.cremoris TL3 Lc. lactis subsp.cremoris TL4

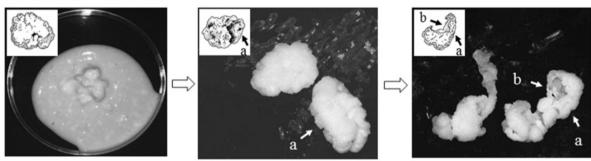
C SEM of biofilm surface



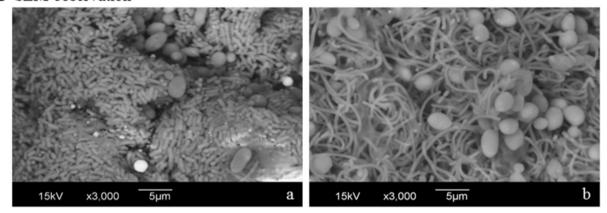
Lc. lactis subsp. cremoris TL1 Leu. mesenteroides TL2 Lc. lactis subsp. cremoris TL3 Lc. lactis subsp. cremoris TL4

Sacco System | saccosystem.com

A Morphology of kefir grain



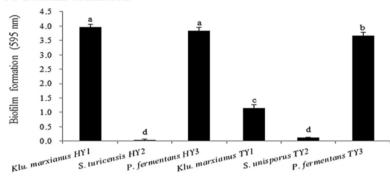
B SEM observation



(A) Biofilm formation; (B) morphology of lactic acid bacterial biofilm surfaces; and (C) SEM observation by LAB isolated from kefir grain and viili starter.

The columns and vertical bars are mean SD of three samples. The columns without a same superscript differ significantly .

A Biofilm formation



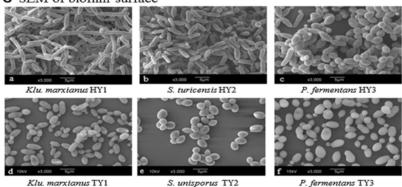
B Biofilm surface



d e f

Klu. marxianus TY1 S. unisporus TY2 P. fermentans TY3

C SEM of biofilm surface



Structure of kefir grains

A section of a whole grain examined by microscopy and photographed. The grains are irregular in shape with a diameter of 10 - 15 mm and structurally it could be opened and extended as a thick biofilm.

The whole outer layer of the grain is more densely populated by microorganisms than the inner part.

At a higher magnification, the <u>outer</u> layer of the grain was found to contain lactobacilli, lactococci and yeasts.

The <u>inner</u> layer of grain was similar except that the lactobacilli were much longer, and more yeast cells were found in the inner layer of grain.

(A) Biofilm formation; (B) morphology of yeast biofilm surfaces; and (C) SEM observation by yeasts isolated from kefir grain and viili starter. The columns and vertical bars are mean SD of three samples. The columns without a same superscript differ significantly (p < 0.05).

The cell-cell interaction among LAB and yeasts.

The effects of mixed species culture on the coaggregation and

biofilm formation were investigated.

The pH and strains significantly affected the coaggregation ability of the mixed kefir LAB and yeast combinations .

Co-cultured kefir LAB and yeast at pH 4.2 showed a faster and better co-aggregation ability than that at pH 6.2.

Mixing Lb. kefiranofaciens with Klu. marxianus or S. turicensis and mixing Lb. kefiri with S. turicensis produced the <u>highest co-aggregation ability</u>.

In contrast, mixtures of viili LAB and yeast strains exhibited weak coaggregation ability. In terms of biofilm formation, a mixture of Klu. marxianus with various individual kefir LAB strains and Lb. kefiri with various individual kefir yeast strains induced higher biofilm formation than the other mixed kefir strains.

Conversely, except for P. fermentans, the mixed viili species displayed lower biofilm formation than the mixed kefir strains .

Biofilm formation by P. fermentans mixed with individual viili LAB was significantly higher than with the other pairs of viili strains.

Overall, Lb. kefiri mixed with Klu marxianus, demonstrated a significantly higher biofilm formation than any other mixed species pair

The structure of the various biofilms was observed by SEM. The results indicated that, in single culture, Lb. kefiri formed a high density and rigid biofilm.

At a higher magnification, the short bacilli were connected together to form network with voids.

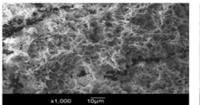
In mixed culture, however, yeasts filled the voids and bound together with Lb. kefiri to form a thick biofilm layer.

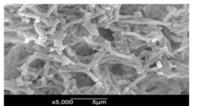
When a mixture of the four kefir LAB strains and three yeast strains

from kefir were co-cultured, the mixed species biofilm demonstrated a thick bi-layer structure.

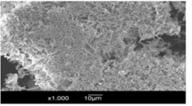
The surface layer was covered by long lactobacilli and yeasts. Short lactobacilli form an inner second layer that was similar to that found in kefir grains .

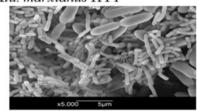
A Lb. kefiriHL2



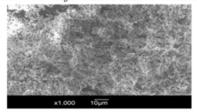


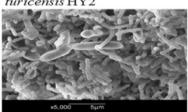
B Lb. kefiri HL2 mixed with Klu. marxianus HY1



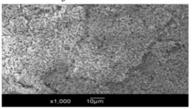


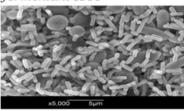
C Lb. kefiri HL2 mixed with S. turicensis HY2



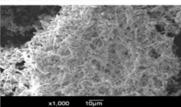


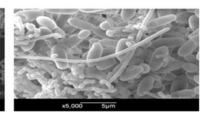
D Lb. kefiri HL2 mixed with P. fermentans HY3





E Mixed cultures





Scanning electron micrographs of biofilm surface of : (A) Lb. kefiri HL2;

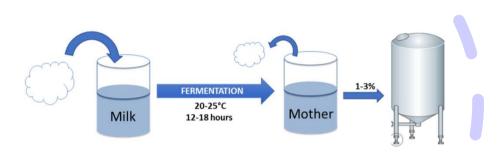
(B) (B) Lb.kefiri HL2 cultured with Klu.marxianus HY1

(C) Lb. kefiri HL2 cultured with S. turicensis HY2;

(D) Lb. kefiri HL2 cultured with P. fermentans HY3

(E) 4 LAB cultured with 3 yeasts.







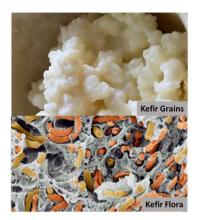
FOCUS ON KEFIR GRAINS - APPLICATION

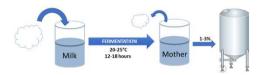
On a larger scale, kefir production involves a multistep process.

- 1 The culture is prepared by incubating milk with kefir grains (2%–3%).
- 2 The grains are then removed by filtration and the resulting liquid mother culture is
- 3 added to milk (1%–3%), which is fermented for 12 to 18 h at 20°C –25°C to get kefir.
- 4 Kefir grains removed by filtration in the first step are used for subsequent fermentations.

FOCUS ON KEFIR GRAINS -APPLICATION

- <u>The traditional method</u> of kefir preparation involves pouring milk in skin bags on a daily basis,
- followed by the addition of kefir grains (2%–10%), which leads to natural fermentation.
- The bags, or recipient, are regularly shaken to ensure the milk and kefir grains are well mixed.
- The finished product has high acidity and varying amounts of alcohol and carbon dioxide.
- Kefir can be produced from milk of various species including cow, ewe, goat, and buffalo,
- The use of <u>cow milk</u> is more common.





| GRAINS | MICRORGANISMES | KEFIR |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 5-25% | Lactococcus spp. Leuconostoc spp. Streptococus spp. | 80% |
| 10-15% | Yeasts (Kluyveromyces spp. mainly) | 10-15% |
| 65-80% | Lactobacilli spp. | 5-10% |

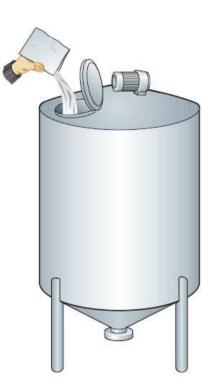
FOCUS ON KEFIR TYPE GRAINS - APPLICATION

THE USAGE OF STARTER

- FASY TO USF
- STEADY MICROBIAL COMPOSITION FROM BATCH TO BATCH
- STABLE STARTER ACTIVITY
- REDUCTION OF QUALITY COMPLAINTS
- POSSIBILITY TO CHOICE A CUSTOMIZED SOLUTION
- DEFINED DOSAGE

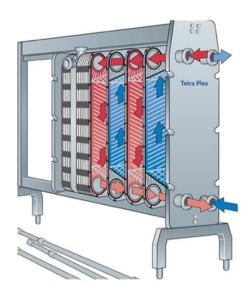
APPLICATION CONDITIONS

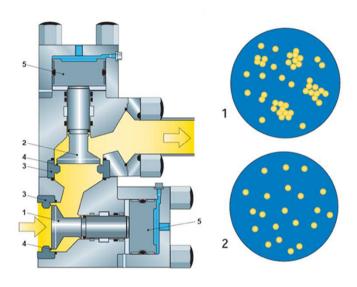
- MILK BASE PREPARATION AND STANDARDIZATION
- INOCULATION AT PRODUCTION TEMPERATURE: 28 32°C
- FERMENTATION, TILL pH 4,60 +/- 0.05; ACIDITY 80/120°T 35/60°SH/100 ml
- COOLING AND PACKING.
- DISTRIBUTION

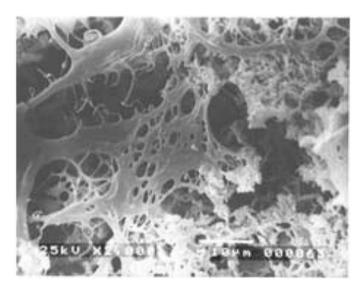




KEFIR and KEFIR DRINK - LACK OF BODY







HEAT TREATMENT 95°C for app. 5 minutes

HOMOGENIZATION

May vary according to Fat and PT content i.e. full fat min.2 stages >200 Bar

CULTURES EPS PRODUCERS

Act as a natural stabilizer



KEFIR and KEFIR DRINK - LACK OF BODY and the role of HePS

KEFIR GRAINS:

CHECK PRODUCTION OF HePS AND GRAINS COMPOSITION. CULTURES HePS PRODUCERS

Act as a natural stabilizer
In this case, the HePS producers, has to develop in the natural grains blend, and keep the caracteristics during the regular starter production.

KEFIR DRINK / KEFIR TYPE

SUBSTITUTION WITH HePS PRODUCED BY LACTIC BACTERIA CULTURES HePS PRODUCERS

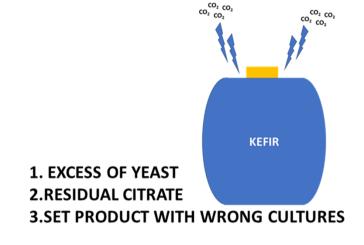
Act as a natural stabilizer.

Today are available in the market, culture prepared specifically for kefir drink application carrying bactera HeSP producers.

The application , is in conformity to the regular production parameters.

KEFIR and KEFIR DRINK BLOWING ISSUES

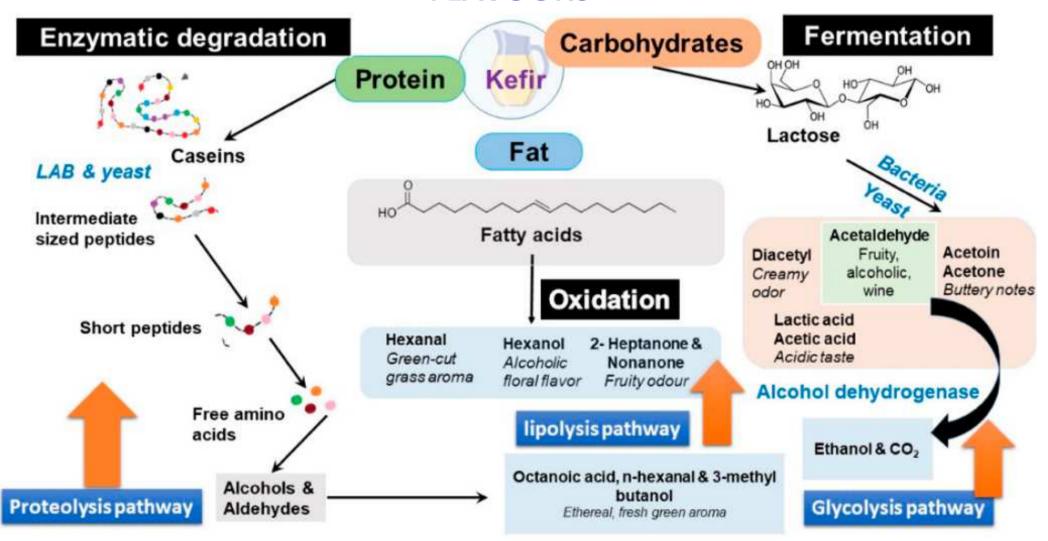








FLAVOURS



J

-1 -1 -111

KEFIR DRINK YOGHURT «KEFIR» SAB - Y - Y+









Faster fermentation through the usage of Yoghurt cultures

Fermentation T° 38-43°C Time to target pH 6-8 hours

Pleasant and tasty!

A good base to add your favourite topping

| | DIACETYL | BLUE CHEESE | YEASTY | FRESH/ACID | VISCOSITY | ALCOHOL | FIZZYNESS |
|-----------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| DVI: Gas free mild kefir | | | | | | | |
| HIGH | | MEDIUM | MEDI | JM/LOW | Lo | ow | ABSEN |

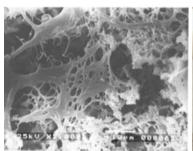
Sacco Lyofast Y as base

Sacco Lyofast ST HePS producers

Sacco Lyofast M - MO HePS producers

KEFIR DRINK BODY ENHANCER - NO EXTRA GAS

- Streptococcus thermophilus
- Lactococcus lactis ssp. cremoris HePS producer
- Lactococcus lactis ssp. lactis
- Lactococcus lactis spp. lactis biovar. diacetylactis
- Lactobacillus brevis
- Leuconostoc spp.





| | DIACETYL | BLUE CHEESE | YEASTY | FRESHNESS | VISCOSITY | ALCOHOL | FIZZYNESS | |
|-------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|--|
| DVI:Yeast free Kefir | | | | | | | | |
| HIGH | N. | MEDIUM | MEDI | UM/LOW | | ow | ABS | |



KEFIR DRINK BODY ENHANCER - WITH PROBIOTICS

- Streptococcus thermophilus
- Lactococcus lactis ssp. lactis
- Lactococcus lactis ssp. Cremoris
- Lactococcus lactis spp. lactis biovar. diacetylactis Leuconostoc mesenteroides

- Lactobacillus delbrueckii ssp. lactis
- Lactobacillus brevis
- Bifidobacterium lactis BLC 1
- Lactobacillus acidophilus LA 3
- Lactobacillus casei BGP 93
- Lactobacillus rhamnosus SP1
- Lactobacillus plantarum LPLDL
- Kluiveromyces marxianus B0399

| | DIACETYL | BLUE CHEESE | YEASTY | FRESH/ACID | VISCOSITY | ALCOHOL | FIZZYNESS |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------|--------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| DVI: Yeast free with probiotic | | | | | | | |
| HIGH | N | 1EDIUM | MEDI | JM/LOW | LC | ow | ABSENT |







KEFIR DRINK TRADITIONAL AND DRINKABLE

Streptococcus thermophilus,
Lactococcus lactis ssp. cremoris
Lactococcus lactis ssp. Lactis
Lactococcus lactis spp. lactis
biovar.diacetylactis
Lactobacillus brevis
Leuconostoc spp
Kluiveromyces marxianus
Saccharomyces bayanus

Streptococcus thermophilus
Lactococcus lactis ssp. cremoris
Lactococcus lactis ssp. lactis
Lactococcus lactis spp. lactis biovar.
diacetylactis
Lactobacillus brevis
Leuconostoc spp
Saccharomyces bayanus







EXTRA CULTURES

Kefir could be used as a functional food,

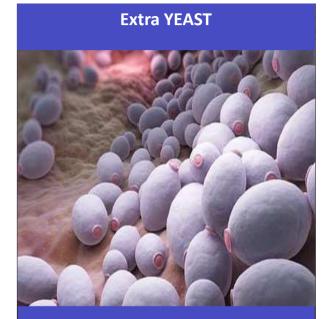
- **1** As it suppresses increase of **blood pressure**.
- 2 Reduces serum cholesterol levels.
- **3** And relieves **constipation**.

For instance, La. kefiranofaciens, an HePS-producing strain isolated from kefir, displays interesting probiotic properties.

- **4** Moreover, the water-soluble HePS from kefir grains <u>retards tumor</u> growth *in vivo* when administrated orally.
- **5** Furthermore, kefir biofilms and their **polysaccharide compounds** may be good antimicrobial.
- 6 Anti-inflammatory, and cicatrizing agents for use in a variety of infections.



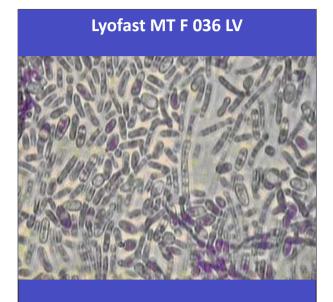
EXTRA CULTURES



KL8: Kluyveromyces lactis

KM7: Kluyveromyces marxianus

DH1: Debaryomyces hansenii



PROBIOTIC LACTIC YEAST B0399 ® Kluyveromyces marxianus ssp fragilis

From Caucasian Kefir Grains
Probiotic

Probiotics



Lyofast SAB series

Streptococcus thermophilus EPS producer Lactobacillus acidophilus Bifidumbacterium animalis ssp lactis

Lyofast LP LDL

Lactobacillus plantarum

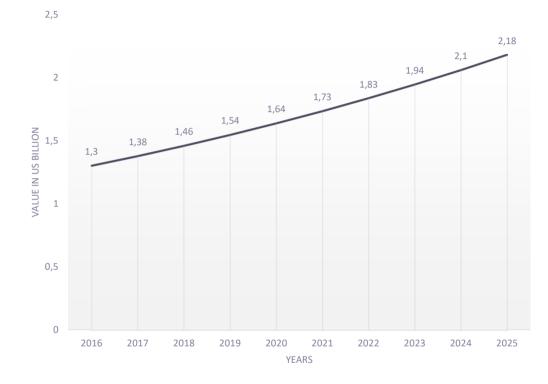
Lyofast YAB series

Streptococcus thermophilus EPS producer Lactobacillus bulgaricus Lactobacillus acidophilus Bifidumbacterium animalis ssp lactis

Kefir Market 1/3

- Kefir is having a relevant success thanks to the health benefits ensured.
- Kefir consumption is a recent phenomenon derived by the willingness to follow a healthy diet. This because it has essential and good nutrients, useful also for who suffers for lactose intolerance.
- According to Transparency Market Research, the global kefir market is expanding at a CAGR of 5.9% in a period from 2017 to 2025

Kefir growing market (US Billion)



In 2018, the global kefir market was valued USD 1.47 Billion and the forecast for 2025 is that the market will reach the value of USD 2.2 Billion



Kefir Market 2/3

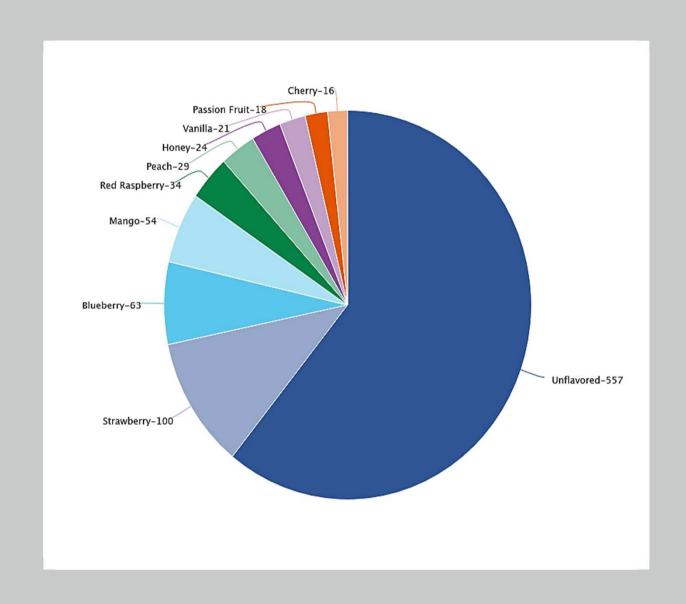
- <u>Europe</u> (powered by U.K and Germany) represents the most important market holding more than 50%, in 2016, of the overall kefir market.
- North America rests the second most important kefir market. Application of flavoured kefir are increasing in pharmaceutical formulations. In addition, low fat kefir and dietary supplements consume is increasing among obese individuals for its property to enhance metabolic activity.
- Asia Pacific, Latin America, and the Middle East and Africa, rising health consciousness increased purchases
 of healthy products, including kefir. The Asia Pacific kefir market is booming due to increasing spending on
 health drinks and dietary supplements in India, Japan, and China.
- Asia Pacific is projected to be the fastest growing kefir market with CAGR of 9.04% from 2016 to 2025.



Kefir Market 3/3

Kefir best flavors and product

- The unflavored kefir is the rule despite many other flavored products are launched and going to be launched.
- The chart is a representation of new kefir products launches in the last five years.
- The result is that <u>unflavored</u> <u>kefir leads the market.</u>



our network

We are a system of indipendent companies with their autonomy and self identity, grouped in a unique network







our market areas



















THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Paolo Cernuschi

p.cernuschi@saccosrl.it

Regional Director - Sacco System

Via A. Manzoni 29/A, 22071

Cadorago, CO Italy

Direct No +39 031 8866 765

Mobile +39 348 60 10 792

www.saccosystem.com

