

## Biotransformation of Exogenous Monoterpenoids by Plant Cell Culture

Seung-Won Shin

College of Pharmacy, Duksung Women's University, Seoul 132-714, Korea

**Abstract**—Recent reports on biotransformation of monoterpene alcohols, aldehydes, acetates and epoxides are summarized. The studies have focused on stereospecific reaction of the functional groups of exogenous foreign substrates by foreign plant cells and micro-organisms. An another important aspect of research is the development of the immobilization technique for cells or related enzymes.

**Keywords**—Biotransformation · monoterpene · cell culture

The production of useful secondary metabolites is of considerable interest in plant cell culture research. However, with few exceptions, callus and cell suspension cultures tend to produce the desired compounds in much lower quantities than mother plants or in many cases, to produce the particular compounds not at all.<sup>1-3)</sup> An another problem is the compositions or structures of the produced compounds are not coincident with the purposed useful compounds.<sup>4,5)</sup>

It has been studied for improving yields of secondary metabolites by altering the composition of culture medium, varying the physical conditions, induction of polyploid cells, induction of morphological differentiation (organ culture, hairy root, etc.), creation of artificial accumulation sites and high-producing cell line selection. With rapid advances in molecular biology, it become possible to apply the biotechnological methods in this fields by increasing the the rate-limiting enzyme, creating a new branch for preexisting pathway, reducing the rate of an existing side reaction, manipulation of regulatory genes and selection of regulatory mutants.<sup>6-9)</sup>

Biotransformation is the important research

area to use the biochemical potential of the plant cell, micro-organisms and animal cells for bioconversion of substances employing the the biotechnological methods generally. With the development of the methods using the ability of cultured plant cells and micro-organism to metabolize or convert the substrate to desired structures will be able to support considerable advances in establishing high-yield and low-cost culturing system for industrial mass-production of the useful compounds.<sup>10-13)</sup>

Recent studies on biotransformation have focused on stereospecific reaction of the functional groups of exogenous foreign substrates by foreign plant cells and micro-organisms. An another important aspect of research is the development of the immobilization technique for cells or related enzymes.<sup>15-17)</sup>

Biotransformation of monoterpenoids is one of the attractive subjects of recent studies and because they are economically important compounds used as pharmaceuticals, perfumes and flavouring agents. In production of essence, they are more important than sesquiterpenoids due to their high volatility. In most cases, the cultured cells tend to produce these compounds in much lower quantities than mother

**Table I.** Biotransformation of monoterpene alcohols

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
geraniol	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	nerol, geranial, neral	10
"	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	"	10
"	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	"	10
"	<i>Glycine max</i>	"	10
"	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	nerol	48
geraniol, citronellol (callus)	<i>Rosa damascena</i>	C <sub>5</sub> , C <sub>10</sub> oxidation product	19
geraniol (suspension)	"	citral	19
(-)-borneol	<i>Eucalyptus perriniana</i>	(-)-borneol 2-O- $\beta$ -gentibioside	38
"	"	(-)-borneol 2-O- $\beta$ -sophoroside	38
"	"	(-)-borneol 2',6'-di-(4- $\beta$ -glucopyranosyl)-D-glucopyranoside	38
"	"	6-exo-hydroxyborneol 2-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	38
"	"	4-hydroxyborneol 2-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	38
"	"	5-exo hydroxyborneol 2-O- $\beta$ -gentibioside	38
"	"	5-exo-hydroxyborneol 2-O- $\beta$ -glucopyranoside	38
(-)-menthol	<i>Asperigillus niger</i>	1-,2-,6-,7-,8-, and 9-hydroxymenthol	35
"	<i>A. cellulosa</i>	4-hydroxymenthol	35
(+)-menthol	<i>A. niger</i>	7-hydroxymenthol	35
(1R,2R,4R)-(-)-carbomenthol	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(+)-carbomenthone (+)-neocarbomenthol	34
(1S,2S,4S)-(+)-carbomenthol	"	(-)-carbomenthone	34
(1R,2S,4R)-(+)-neocarbomenthol	"	(+)-carbomenthone	34
(1S,2R,4S)-(-)-neocarbomenthol	"	(-)-carbomenthone	34
(1R,3R,4S)-(-)-menthol	"	(-)-menthone (sc)	34
(1S,3S,4R)-(+)-menthol	"	(+)-menthone (sc)	34
(1R,3S,4S)-(+)-neomenthol	"	(-)-menthone (sc)	34
(1S,3R,4R)-(-)-neomenthol	"	(+)-menthone (sc)	34
(1R,2S,4R)-(+)-borneol	"	(+)-camphor	31, 34
(1S,2R,4S)-(-)-borneol	"	(-)-camphor	31, 34
(1R,2R,4R)-(-)-isoborneol	"	(+)-camphor	31, 34
(1S,2S,4S)-(+)-isoborneol	"	(-)-camphor	31, 34
(1R,2R,3R,5S)-(-)-isopinocampheol	"	(+)-isopinocampheol	31, 34
(1S,2S,3S,5R)-(+)-isopinocampheol	"	(-)-isopinocampheol	31, 34
(1R,2R,3S,5S)-(+)-neoisopinocampheol	"	(+)-neoisopinocampheol	31, 34
(1S,2S,3R,5R)-(-)-neoisopinocampheol	"	(-)-neoisopinocampheol	31, 34
(1R,2S,4R,5R)-(+)-neoisoverbanol	"	(+)-cis-verbanone	31, 34
(1S,2R,4S,5S)-(-)-neoisoverbanol	"	(+)-cis-verbanone	31, 34
(2R,4R)-(-)-cis-carveol	"	(-)-carvone	31, 34
(2S,4S)-(+)-cis-carveol	"	(-)-carvone	31, 34
(2S,4R)-(-)-trans-carveol	"	(-)-carvone	31, 34

Table I. Continued

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
(2R,4S)-(+)-trans-carveol	"	(+)-carvone	31, 34
(1R,4R,5R)-(+)-cis-verbenol	"	(+)-cis-verbanone	31, 34
"	"	(+)-verbenone	31, 34
(1S,4S,5S)-(-)-cis-verbenol	"	(-)-cis-verbanone	31, 34
"	"	(-)-verbenone	31, 34
(+)-isopinocampheol	<i>Rhizopus arrhizus</i>	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	Trans, trans-4(8)-menthene-2,6-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
"	<i>Bacillus sphaericus</i>	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R,6R)-pinane-3,9-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,5S)-5-hydroxy-pinane-3-one	36, 37
"	"	2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
"	<i>Bacillus megaterium</i>	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	Trans, trans-4(8)-menthene-2,6-diol	36, 37
"	<i>Botryphaeria rhodina</i>	(1R,2S,3S,5R)-pinane-1,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R,6R)-pinane-3,9-diol	36, 37
"	"	Trans, trans-4(8)-menthene-2,6-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-	36, 37
"	"	2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R)-pinane-1,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2R,3S,5R)-pinane-2,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R)-3-acetoxy-pinane-5-ol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5R,7R)-pinane-3,7-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5R,6S)-pinane-3,8-diol	
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R,6R)-8-acetoxy-pinane-3-ol	36, 37
"	"	trans-4(8)-menthene-2,6-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37

Table I. Continued

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
"	<i>Norcardia sp.</i>	(1R,2S,3S,5R)-pinane-1,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2R,3S,5R)-pinane-2,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5R,7R)-pinane-3,7-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5R,6S)-pinane-3,8-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
(-)-isopinocampheol	<i>Botryosphaeria rhodina</i>	(1R,2R,3S,5R)-pinane-2,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2S,3S,5R,6R)-pinane-3,9-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
"	"	(-)-isopinocampheol acetate	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2R,3S,4R,5R)-pinane-3,4-diol	36, 37
"	<i>Mortierella isabellina</i>	(1R,2S,3S,5R)-pinane-1,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1R,2R,3S,5R)-pinane-2,3-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37
"	"	(3R,4R)-2-(2'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-3-methyl-cyclopentene-4-ol	36, 37
"	<i>Norcardia sp.</i>	(1S,2S,3S,5S)-pinane-3,5-diol	36, 37
"	"	(1S,2S,3S)-1-(1'-hydroxy-1'-methyl-propyl)-2-methyl-bicyclo[3,1,0]hexane-3-ol	36, 37

plants and, in many cases, to produce the useful compounds not at all. In such a status, the ability of cells to convert the metabolites produced in cells or foreign substrates to useful compounds is of considerable interest.<sup>18-20)</sup>

The reaction types and stereochemistry in the biotransformation depends on the functional group in the substrates administered and the structural moieties in the vicinity of the functional group.<sup>21,22)</sup>

This article is an update of the previous reviews by Mulder-Krieger(1988)<sup>23)</sup> and Mahato et al.(1990)<sup>24)</sup> and a comprehensive summarize

of the reports during the last ten years.

Here are summarized the reports on biotransformation of monoterpenoids according to the chemical groups of substrates: 1. alcohols (Table I), 2. acetates and hydrocarbons (Table II), 3. aldehydes and ketones (Table III), 4. oxides (Table IV).

## Alcohols

Since the conversion of geraniol was confirmed in cell suspension culture, the biotransformation of monoterpene alcohol has been

**Table II.** Biotransformation of monoterpene acetates and hydrocarbons

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
1. Acetates			
(±)-menthyl acetate	<i>Spirodella oligorrhiza</i>	(-)-menthol	39, 40, 41
(±)-bornyl acetate	"	(±)-borneol	39, 40, 41
(±)-trans-2-acetoxy-trans-dihydropinol	"	(-)-trans-2-hydroxy-dihydropinol	39, 40, 41
(±)-cis-2-acetoxy-trans-dihydropinol	"	(-)-cis-2-hydroxy-trans-dihydropinol	39, 40, 41
(±)-trans-2-acetoxy-cis-dihydropinol	"	(±)-trans-2-hydroxy-cis-dihydropinol	39, 40, 41
linalyl acetate	<i>Papaver bracteatum</i>	linalool, geraniol, α-terpineol	39, 40, 41
(-)-bornyl acetate	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(-)-borneol	28
(+)-bornyl acetate	"	(+)-borneol, camphor	28
(-)-isobornyl acetate	"	(-)-iaoborneol, camphor	28
(+)-isobornyl acetate	"	(+)-isoborneol	28
(-)-isopinocampheyl acetate	"	(-)-isopinocampheol	28
(+)-isopinocampheyl acetate	"	(+)-isopinocampheol	28
1-acetoxy-p-menth-4(8)-ene	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	r-1-acetoxy-t-4,8-epoxy-p-menthane	32
	"	r-1-acetoxy-c-4,8-epoxy-p-menthane	
(±)-8-acetoxy-p-menth-1-ene (α-terpinylacetate)	"	8-acetoxy-c-4-p-menthane-r-1,t-2-diol	30, 32
2. hydrocarbons			
terpinolene	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	fenchon-1,4-diol	35

**Table III.** Biotransformation of monoterpene aldehydes and ketones

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
perillaldehyde	<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	perillyl alcohol	45
neral	"	nerol	45
geranial	"	geraniol	45
citronellal	"	citronellol	45
"	<i>Mellisa officinalis</i>	"	48
"	<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	"	46, 47, 16, 17
(+)-citronellal	<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	(+)-citronellol	49, 50, 51
(-)-citronellal	"	(-)-citronellol	49, 50, 51
(±)-citronellal	"	(±)-citronellol	49, 50, 51
citral	<i>Mellisa officinalis</i>	nerol, geraniol	48
"	<i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	" , "	16, 17, 46, 47
"	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	(-)-citronellal, (+)-citronellal	50
"	"	geraniol, nerol	50
"	"	(-)-citronellol, (+)-citronellol	50
"	"	(-)-citronellic acid, (+)-citronellic acid	50
"	"	geranic acid, neric acid	50
citral (geranial:neral=56:44)	<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	geraniol	49, 50, 51

Table III. Continued

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
myrtenal	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	myrtenol, myrtenoic acid	50
(-)-perillaldehyde	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	(-)-perillic acid	50
"	"	(-)-perillyl alcohol	
"	"	trans-shisool, cis-shisool,	50
"	"	trans-shisoic acid,	50
"	"	cis-shisoic acid	
"	"	trans-1,2-dihydroperillaldehyde	50
"	"	cis-1,2-dihydroperillaldehyde	50
(-)-perillaldehyde	<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	(-)-perillyl alcohol,	49, 50, 51
		trans-shisool	
(±)-perillaldehyde	"	(±)-perillyl alcohol,	49, 50, 51
		trans-shisool	
(-)-phellandral	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	(-)-phellandrol	50
"	"	trans-tetrahydroperillyl alcohol	50
"	"	phellandric acid	50
"	"	cis-tetrahydroperillyl alcohol	50
(-)-phellandral	<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	(-)-phellandrol	49, 50, 51
trans-dihydroperillaldehyde	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	trans-shisool, trans-shisoic acid	50
cis-dihydroperillaldehyde	"	cis-shisool, cis-shisoic acid	50
1,2-dihydroperillaldehyde (trans:cis=87:17)	<i>Dunaliella tertiolecta</i>	trans-shisool, cis-shisool	49, 50, 51
cumin aldehyde	"	cumin alcohol	49, 50, 51
(+)-citronellal	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	(+)-citronellol, d-citronellic acid	50
(-)-citronellal	"	(-)-citronellol, l-citronellic acid	50
(-)-carvone	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(1R,4R)-dihydrocarvone	22
(1R)(+)-p-menth-4(8)-en-3-one	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(1R,4S)-(-)-p-menth-3-one	21
"	"	(1R,4R)-(+)-p-menth-3-one	21
"	"	(1R,3R,4S)-p-menth-3-ol	21
"	"	(1R,4R)-(-)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21
"	"	(1R,4S)-(+)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21
(1R,4S)-(-)-p-menth-3-one	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(1R,3R,4S)-p-menth-3-ol	21
"	"	(1R,4R)-(-)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21
"	"	(1R,4S)-(+)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21
(1R,4R)-(+)-p-menth-3-one	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(1R,3R,4S)-p-menth-3-ol	21
"	"	(1R,4R)-(-)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21
"	"	(1R,4S)-(+)-4-hydroxy-p-menth-3-one	21

Table III. Continued

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
(1R,4R)-(+)-carbomenthone	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	(1R,2R,4R)-(-)-carbomenthol	27, 33, 34
"	"	(1R,2S,4R)-(+)-neocarbomenthol	27, 33, 34
(1S,4S)-(-)-carbomenthone	"	(1S,2S,4S)-(+)-carbomenthol	27, 33, 34
"	"	(1S,2R,4S)-(-)-neocarbomenthol	27, 33, 34
(1R,4S)-(-)-menthone	"	(1R,4R)-4-hydroxy-p-menthan-3-one	27, 33, 34
"	"	(1R,3S,4S)-(+)-neomenthol	27, 33, 34
(1S,4R)-(+)-menthone	"	(1S,4S)-4-hydroxy-p-menthan-3-one	27, 33, 34
"	"	(1S,3R,4R)-(+)-neomenthol	27, 33, 34
"	"	(1S,3S,4R)-(+)-menthol	27, 33, 34
(1R,4R)-(+)-camphor	"	(1R,2S,5R)-(+)-cis-verbanone	27, 33, 34
(1S,4S)-(-)-camphor	"	(1S,2R,5S)-(+)-cis-verbanone	27, 33, 34
carbotanacetone	<i>Aspergillus sp.</i>	p-menthane-2,9-diol, 8-hydroxycarveol,	35
"	"	p-menthane-2,9-diol acetate	35
(+)-fenchone	<i>Eucalyptus perriniana</i>	(1R,4R,5S)-5-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 5-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	51
"	"	(1R,4R,5S)-5-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 5-O- $\beta$ -D-gentiobioside	51
"	"	(1R,4S,6R)-6-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 6-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	51
"	"	(1R,4S,6R)-6-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 6-O- $\beta$ -D-gentiobioside	51
"	"	(1S,4S,7S)-7-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 7-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	51
"	"	(1S,4S,7S)-7-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 7-O- $\beta$ -D-gentiobioside	51
(-)-fenchone	"	(1S,4S,5R)-5-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 5-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	51
"	"	(1S,4R,6S)-6-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 6-O- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside	51
"	"	(1S,4R,6S)-6-hydroxyfenchan-2-one 6-O- $\beta$ -D-gentiobioside	51

studied in many aspect.<sup>25,26)</sup>

One of the important subjects of the advanced research is the regio- and stereospecificity of the reaction.<sup>27-29)</sup> In cell suspension culture of *Nicotiana tabacum*, the selective transformation of methyl group of linalol into the hydroxy methyl group and the ability of the cells to discriminate between the enan-

tiomers were observed.<sup>30,31)</sup> The cultured cells favour (1R,2S,4R)-9-(+)-borneol in preference to its enantiomer. Such an ability of the cultured cells was also investigated with the monoterpenoids such as terpineol derivatives, having terminal, endocyclic and exocyclic C-C double bonds.<sup>32,33)</sup>

Hamata<sup>34)</sup> has carried out experiments with

**Table VI.** Biotransformation of monoterpene oxides

Substrates	Plants or Micro-organism	Products	ref.
1,8-cineol	<i>Glomerella cingulata</i>	2-exo-hydroxy-1,8-cineol	52
"	"	2-endo-hydroxy-1,8-cineol	52
"	"	3-endo-hydroxy-1,8-cineol	52
"	"	3-exo-hydroxy-1,8-cineol	52
"	"	(1R,2R,4S)-2-endo-hydroxy-1,8-cineolyl malonate	52
1,8-cineol	<i>Eucalyptus perriniana</i>	(1R,2R,4S)-1.8-epoxy-p-menthan-2-yl-O- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranoside	53
"	"	(1S,3R,4R)-1.8-epoxy-p-menthan-2-yl-O- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranoside	53
"	"	(1R,3S,4S)-1.8-epoxy-p-menthan-2-yl-O- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranoside	53
"	"	(1S,2S,4R)-1.8-epoxy-p-menthan-2-yl-O- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranosyl- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranoside	53
"	"	(1S,2S,4R)-1.8-epoxy-p-menthan-2-yl-O- $\beta$ -D-glycoayranoside	53
(-)-cis-rose oxide	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	(-)-cis-9-hydroxy-7E-rose oxide	54
		(-)-cis-7E-rose oxide-8-carboxylic acid	54
(-)-trans-rose oxide	"	(-)-trans-9-hydroxy-7E-rose oxide	54
		(-)-trans-7E-rose oxide-8-carboxylic acid	54

enantiomers of menthol, borneol and carveols. Hier was confirmed the enantioselectivity in the oxidation of these secondary alcohols.

The introduction of the functional group at nonactivated carbon atom by micro-organisms were studied in cultures of *Aspergillus niger*, its strains and related species.<sup>35)</sup> (+)- and (-)-menthol, terpinolene and (-)-carvotolacetone were converted to obtain various hydroxylated and reduced products. It was shown (-)-menthol was nonspecifically transformed to give six hydroxylated products, mainly 3-hydroxy and 9-hydroxymethanol. On the other hand, the main product from conversion of (+)-menthol was 7-hydroxymenthol. The products of biotransformations were different according to the various species of *Aspergillus*.

The hydroxylation of isopinocampheol by bacterial and fungal strains was experimented by Abraham.<sup>36,37)</sup> As results, 14 hydroxylated compounds could be characterized. The sites of

hydroxylation were similar at (+)- and (-)-isopinocampheol, but the significantly different yields indicated that there must be a pronounced enantioselectivity of the enzymes related to the reaction.

The glycosylation of (-)-borneol was experimented in cell suspension of *Eucalyptus perriniana*.<sup>38)</sup> Six compounds, (-)-borneol-2-O-b-gentio-bioside, (-)-borneol-2-O-b-sophoroside and etc. were isolated and identified as products. It is considered that the hydroxylation of C-9 was more preferable than the hydroxylation of C-1 at C-5.

**Acetates and hydrocarbons** - The enantiospecific hydrolysis of the acetates with clone plants were experimented by Pawlowicz et al.<sup>39-41)</sup> It seemed that R alcohols are formed faster than S. in culture of clone *Spirodela oligorrhiza*. Menthyl acetate hydrolyzed enantiospecifically converted to (-)-menthol (R-configuration) mainly. Under the same conditions,



(±)-borneol was formed from bornyl acetate. The three racemic 2-hydroxy-dihydropinol acetates showed different hydrolysis in enantiospecificity with one another. The degree of hydrolysis was affected by the concentration of the substrate.

Hook et al.<sup>42-44</sup> found that the acyclic monoterpene, linalyl acetate was transformed into linalol(24%), geraniol(14%), and  $\alpha$ -terpineol(4.5%) in suspension culture of *Papaver bracteatum* over 36 hr period. The same pattern of transformation resisted in cultivation over 14 days.

### Aldehydes and ketones

The reductive capability of biotransformation of exogenous monoterpene aldehyde were tested by cell suspension culture of *Lavandula angustifolia*. Monoterpene aldehydes and related compounds were reduced to corresponding alcohols. The different rates of reduction at acyclic, cyclic and aromatic aldehydes suggested the presents of semi-specific reductase.<sup>45</sup>

Gbolade and Lochwood observed differences between the cultivars of *Petroselinum crispum* cv. in bioconversion of citral and citronellal into geraniol, nerol and citronellol.<sup>46</sup> They compared the conversion of monoterpenes by freely suspended and polyurethane foam-immobilized cells of *Petroselinum crispum*. The efficacy of the reduction of citral and citronellal by immobilization of cells was lower than that by suspended cells. It seemed that the immobilization of cells may not necessarily lead to higher capability of bioconversion.<sup>47</sup>

To approach to the problem that cultured cells were not able to accumulate the typical flavour of the mother plant, the conversion of citral, citronellal and geraniol into nerol and geraniol, and citronellol was investigated in cellsuspension cultures of *Melissa officinalis*.<sup>48</sup>

Noma et al. have used photosynthetic micro-organisms to experiment the biotransformation of monoterpene aldehydes. The cultured *Dunaliella tertiolecta* reduced all saturated and unsaturated terpene aldehydes to corresponding alcohols.<sup>49</sup>

In the experiment using *Euglena gracilis*,  $\alpha$ -,  $\beta$ -unsaturated aldehydes were reduced to the corresponding alcohol and then hydrogenated at the double bond. The saturated terpene aldehydes and aromatic aldehydes were transformed to the corresponding alcohol.<sup>50</sup>

Regio- and stereoselectivity on hydroxylation of bicyclic monoterpene, (+)- and (-)-fenchone were observed in suspension culture of *Eucalyptus perriniana*.<sup>51</sup> Six new glycosides were identified as products of biotransformation.

### Oxides

1,8-cineol is the most useful monoterpene oxide at present. The hydroxylation of 1,8-cineol by *Glomerella cingulata*, a micro-organism was studied.<sup>52</sup> C-2 or C-3 carbon was hydroxylated and both of exo- and endo-hydroxy compounds were produced by transformation.

Ohihara and Furuya have experimented the hydroxylation and glucosylation of exogenous 1,8-cineol in cell culture of *Eucalyptus perriniana*.<sup>53</sup>

Rose oxide, one of the component in rose oil, is an another important and useful compound of this group. The biotransformation of two diastereoisomeric rose oxides were observed in experiments using *Asperigillus niger*.<sup>54</sup> The fungus oxidized C-9 of rose oxide diastereoselectively and produced the corresponding primary alcohol having *E*-configuration at C-7/C-8 double bond.

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