



## Biogas Production: Use of Different Approach Towards Optimization of It's Yield

Osuji M I<sup>1</sup>, Ogbulie JN<sup>1</sup>, Nweke C<sup>1</sup>, Nwanyanwu CE<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Science, Federal University of Technology Owerri Imo State Nigeria.

**\*Corresponding author:** Osuji Malachy Ikeokwu, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Biological Science, Federal University of Technology Owerri Imo State, Nigeria.

**Received Date:** May 26, 2024; **Published Date:** June 26, 2024

© All Rights Reserved by  
Osuji Malachy keokwu

### Abstract:

This research done to reveal the effect of using different approach in biogas optimization process. Ten-liter container was used to fabricate digester. Different approach like use of cellulase producing bacteria, use of bovine blood, magnesium sulphate, pH of 8, sodium carbonate and zinc nitrate were used as additive. After 21 days of retention time, it was recorded that addition of bovine blood yield-ed 231.1g, Magnesium Sulphate recorded 136.3g. But the addition of Zinc nitrate gave rise to for-mation of ammonia which inhibited the growth of bacteria. That gave the biogas of 3.4g. This re-search is recommending that bovine blood and magnesium sulphate should be used in optimization process. Also anything that will produce ammonia should be avoided.

**Keywords:** Substrate; Co-Digestion; Anaerobic; Biogas; Methanogen; Fermentation

### Introduction

Intestinal Because of crisis in energy sector and its short fall in the wild world; there is great need for a replacement of the already used fossil generated energy. Biogas is a renewable and an ecofriendly form of energy which can substitute wood and other fuels in several applications and bring down the rising costs of petroleum products and falling of trees for energy production. Urbanisation has led to rapid production of “wastes” leading to poor management practices in developing nations. Because man must generate waste at all times and his inability to manage it well. Biogas generation has become way of waste reduction.

The high standards of living have increased the release of pollutants and Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) into the environment. According to current research and future predictions, the crude oil will run out within 40 to 70 years, and natural gas will be finished within 50 years (Courtney and Dor-man, 2003). Biogas production is a sustainable solution to treat waste and the cost of the waste treatment is low. There is limited competition with food by using industrial wastewater and residues to produce biogas. The effluent from the biogas process supplies essential nutrients which can also be utilized as fertilizer. The major raw materials or substrate in biogas production is the lignocellulose waste. This

lignocellulose is rich in food nutrients. It has three major components. Biogas is one of the most efficient and effective options among the various other alternative sources of renewable energy currently available. It is produced through anaerobic digestion processes where the microorganisms convert complex organic matter into a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide. The anaerobic digestion of biomass requires less capital investment per unit production cost compared to other renewable energy sources, such as hydro, solar and wind energy [1]. It has been early demonstrated that bio-gas production from crop residues is economically feasible on a farm-scale level (50-500 kW).

### **Aim of The Research**

To use different approach in the optimization biogas production varying certain parameters.

### **Materials and Methods**

#### **Sample Collection and Analysis**

The pig dung samples were collected from an individual piggery with empty buckets of 20 litre capacity. Batch culture anaerobic fermentation method was used. Bioreactors were fabricated with container of 20 liter capacity. Vehicle tubes were used for collection of gases. According to Maravi & Kumar (2020), two cellulose degrading bacteria were isolate from cow dungs. They were identified to molecular level. They were improved and used as inoculum in the fermentation process to ascertain their effect in biogas production.

Parameters of Optimization Used In The Batch Culture Fermentation

1. Substrate mixed with raw  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ .
2. Substrate mixed with shigella flexneri.

3. Substrate mixed with bacillus paramycoides.
4. Substrate mixed with bovine blood.
5. Substrate mixed with protein or meat extract.
6. Substrate mixed with solution of charcoal water.
7. Substrate mixed with zinc nitrate.
8. Substrate mixed with water only (control).
9. Substrate mixed with  $\text{MgSO}_4$  (hard water).
10. Substrate mixed with water of pH 8.

The different substrates as stated above were allowed to stay for 21 days in the fabricated bioreactors. The gases produced were measured daily using electronic digital weighing balance.

### **Results**

After the hydraulic retention time of 21 days, the raw masses of the tubes were recorded. The masses of the gas produced were calculated from the raw data.

On the first day of te batch culture fermentation, all the reading gave og as there was no gas production. On the second day, the digester with  $\text{MgSO}_4$  produced the gas of 24.3g followed by the one with bovine blood which recorded 19.9g. The substrate with  $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  recorded the lowest yield of 1.3g. This continued in this trend until at the retention time of 21 days. Biogas Yield at The 21<sup>st</sup> Day and Possible Reason

- Digester with  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and the pH-8 produced the gas of 80g and 90g respectively this is due to the fact that alkaline pH favours biogas production. The pH inside a biodigester has been found to enhance upon ammonium chloride ( $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ ) addition. The inclusion of this buffering capacity to a particular feedstock was sustained at a pH within a favorable range for methanogenesis at 6.8-7.2 [2].

| DATE      | NO 1(g) | NO 2(g) | NO 3(g) | NO 4(g) | NO 5(g) | NO 6(g) | NO 7(g) | NO 8(g) | NO 9(g) | NO 10(g) |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 2/4/2024  | 420.00  | 420.00  | 420.00  | 670.10  | 421.00  | 420.00  | 420.00  | 419.70  | 420.00  | 420.00   |
| 3/4/2024  | 426.10  | 430.00  | 424.20  | 690.00  | 423.00  | 427.10  | 421.30  | 424.20  | 444.00  | 428.40   |
| 4/4/2024  | 428.10  | 434.20  | 428.10  | 702.30  | 429.20  | 430.30  | 422.10  | 429.00  | 461.10  | 431.50   |
| 5/4/2024  | 432.50  | 438.20  | 439.20  | 710.50  | 431.50  | 433.40  | 424.00  | 432.40  | 470.50  | 436.70   |
| 6/4/2024  | 460.30  | 447.50  | 448.10  | 721.70  | 447.00  | 440.10  | 424.50  | 452.10  | 488.00  | 445.10   |
| 7/4/2024  | 480.50  | 455.70  | 450.10  | 750.40  | 450.80  | 449.10  | 424.50  | 461.50  | 490.80  | 452.80   |
| 8/4/2024  | 486.90  | 478.30  | 455.50  | 757.80  | 455.60  | 453.80  | 424.60  | 472.00  | 497.20  | 459.40   |
| 9/4/2024  | 493.60  | 480.50  | 461.70  | 770.60  | 470.40  | 460.20  | 424.70  | 481.10  | 510.10  | 465.60   |
| 10/4/2024 | 494.10  | 487.20  | 476.30  | 778.60  | 473.50  | 465.30  | 424.50  | 487.90  | 517.00  | 468.50   |
| 11/4/2024 | 495.00  | 495.00  | 499.00  | 785.70  | 478.00  | 466.00  | 424.50  | 489.00  | 520.70  | 494.10   |
| 12/4/2024 | 498.00  | 498.00  | 510.00  | 795.20  | 479.90  | 467.10  | 424.50  | 495.00  | 523.40  | 495.00   |
| 13/4/2024 | 498.70  | 499.70  | 510.70  | 880.10  | 480.00  | 468.00  | 424.50  | 496.00  | 540.10  | 498.00   |
| 14/4/2024 | 499.10  | 499.80  | 510.90  | 890.00  | 480.00  | 468.40  | 424.50  | 497.10  | 549.00  | 498.70   |
| 15/4/2024 | 499.30  | 500.30  | 511.30  | 892.80  | 481.10  | 468.90  | 424.00  | 498.20  | 550.00  | 499.10   |
| 16/4/2024 | 500.20  | 503.20  | 512.20  | 891.90  | 483.00  | 469.00  | 423.50  | 499.00  | 550.40  | 499.30   |
| 17/4/2024 | 500.20  | 510.20  | 513.20  | 899.10  | 484.00  | 470.00  | 423.40  | 500.00  | 556.90  | 500.20   |
| 18/4/2024 | 500.10  | 515.10  | 515.10  | 901.40  | 484.00  | 477.20  | 423.40  | 500.00  | 556.90  | 500.20   |
| 19/4/2024 | 500.00  | 515.00  | 520.00  | 902.90  | 483.80  | 478.00  | 423.40  | 500.20  | 557.00  | 500.10   |
| 20/4/2024 | 500.00  | 515.00  | 520.00  | 902.00  | 483.82  | 478.00  | 423.40  | 500.20  | 556.10  | 510.00   |
| 21/4/2024 | 500.00  | 515.00  | 520.00  | 901.20  | 483.82  | 478.00  | 423.40  | 500.00  | 556.00  | 510.00   |

**Table 1**

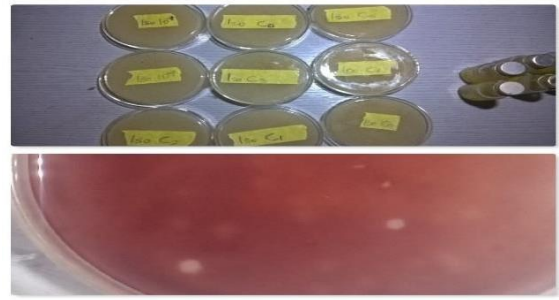
| DAY | with raw Na2CO3 | with shigella | with bacillus | with bovine blood | with protein or meat | with solution of charcoal water | with zinc nitrate | with water only (control) | with mgso4 (hard water) | with water of pH 8. |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1   | 0               | 0             | 0             | 0                 | 0                    | 0                               | 0                 | 0                         | 0                       | 0                   |
| 2   | 6.1             | 10            | 4.2           | 19.9              | 2                    | 7.1                             | 1.3               | 4.2                       | 24.3                    | 8.4                 |
| 3   | 8.1             | 14.2          | 8.1           | 32.2              | 8.2                  | 10.3                            | 2.1               | 9                         | 41.4                    | 11.5                |
| 4   | 12.5            | 18.2          | 19.2          | 40.4              | 10.5                 | 13.4                            | 4                 | 12.4                      | 50.8                    | 16.7                |
| 5   | 40.3            | 27.5          | 28.1          | 51.6              | 26                   | 20.1                            | 4.5               | 32.1                      | 68.3                    | 25.1                |
| 6   | 60.5            | 35.7          | 30.1          | 80.3              | 29.8                 | 29.1                            | 4.5               | 41.5                      | 71.1                    | 32.8                |
| 7   | 66.9            | 58.3          | 35.5          | 87.7              | 34.6                 | 33.8                            | 4.6               | 52                        | 77.5                    | 39.4                |
| 8   | 73.6            | 60.5          | 41.7          | 100.5             | 49.4                 | 40.2                            | 4.7               | 61.1                      | 90.4                    | 45.6                |
| 9   | 74.1            | 67.2          | 56.3          | 108.5             | 52.5                 | 45.3                            | 4.5               | 67.9                      | 97.3                    | 48.5                |
| 10  | 75              | 75            | 79            | 115.6             | 57                   | 46                              | 4.5               | 69                        | 101                     | 74.1                |
| 11  | 78              | 78            | 90            | 125.1             | 58.9                 | 47.1                            | 4.5               | 75                        | 103.7                   | 75                  |
| 12  | 78.7            | 79.7          | 90.7          | 210               | 59                   | 48                              | 4.5               | 76                        | 120.4                   | 78                  |
| 13  | 79.1            | 79.8          | 90.9          | 219.9             | 59                   | 48.4                            | 4.5               | 77.1                      | 129.3                   | 78.7                |
| 14  | 79.3            | 80.3          | 91.3          | 222.7             | 60.1                 | 48.9                            | 4                 | 78.2                      | 130.3                   | 79.1                |
| 15  | 80.2            | 83.2          | 92.2          | 221.8             | 62                   | 49                              | 3.5               | 79                        | 130.7                   | 79.3                |
| 16  | 80.2            | 90.2          | 93.2          | 229               | 63                   | 50                              | 3.4               | 80                        | 137.2                   | 80.2                |
| 17  | 80.1            | 95.1          | 95.1          | 231.3             | 63                   | 57.2                            | 3.4               | 80                        | 137.2                   | 80.2                |
| 18  | 80              | 95            | 100           | 232.8             | 62.8                 | 58                              | 3.4               | 80.2                      | 137.3                   | 80.1                |
| 19  | 80              | 95            | 100           | 231.9             | 62.82                | 58                              | 3.4               | 80.2                      | 136.4                   | 90                  |
| 20  | 80              | 95            | 100           | 231.1             | 62.82                | 58                              | 3.4               | 80                        | 136.3                   | 90                  |
| 21  | 80              | 95            | 100           | 231.1             | 62.82                | 58                              | 3.4               | 80                        | 136.3                   | 90                  |

**Table 2**

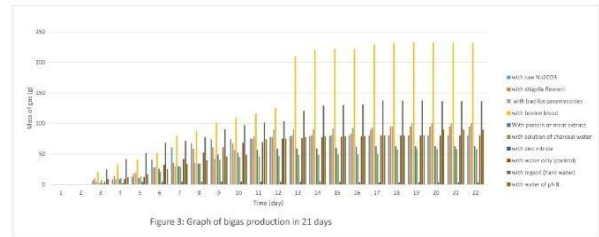
**Table 1&2:** After the hydraulic retention time of 21 days, the raw masses of the tubes were recorded. The masses of the gas produced were calculated from the raw data.



**Figure 1:** Fabricated biogas digesters and the agar slants containing the bacterial isolates



**Figure 2:** Plate ready for incubation and zone of clearing showing cellulolytic ability



**Figure 3:** Graph of biogas production in 21 days.

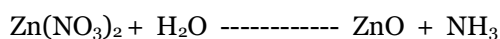
Set up with *Shigella flexneri* and *Bacillus paramycoides* produced gas of masses 95g and 100g respectively. This shows that both are facultative anaerobes which can ferment sugar in absence of oxygen. The use of inoculum has been found to ensure a stable meth-anogenic community establishment in the shortest possible time of 5 to 10 days [3]. Up-on the addition of higher amounts of inoculum to a biodigester, more anaerobic microorganisms are added leading to an increase in the biodegradation process.

- Set up with bovine blood gave the highest biogas yield of 231.1g. This is a result of bio-stimulation and high nutrient content of the blood. During anaerobic digestion, the micro-organisms need nutrients to produce optimum yield. Several nutrients including potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, iron, cadmium, chromium, nitrogen etc are re-quired for effective

performance. Several scholars have reported that POME is rich in nutrients [4]. Bovine blood contains 80.9% water, 17.3% protein, 0.23% fat, 0.07% carbohydrate and 0.62% minerals.

- Set up with  $MgSO_4$  gave the second to the highest yield of 136.3g. This was reported by [5] that calculated and measured amounts of Calcium or Magnesium Sulphate will enhance biogas production.

- Set up with  $Zn(NO_3)_2$  gave the lowest yield of 3.4g. This is due to formation of ammonia during reaction with water.



The proportion of Free Ammonia (FA) is of importance, as FA has been suggested as the main cause of inhibition. Findings from several studies [6] indicated that methane fermentation of high ammonia-containing wastes is more prone to inhibition at thermo-philic temperatures than at mesophilic temperatures, supporting the view that it is the free ammonia which causes toxicity.

### **Conclusion and Recommendation**

At the end of hydraulic retention time of 21days, substrate with sodium carbonate gave 80g, shigella flexneri gave 95g while the one with Bacillus parmycoides gave 100g. the one with bovine blood gave 231.1g and that with zinc nitrate gave the lowest of 3.4g. This correspond to work done by [7-8].

This research work recommends as follows

- i. Bovine blood should be used in biogas optimization.
- ii. Measured amount of magnesium sulphate should be used in biogas

optimization.

- iii. Shigella flexneri and Bacillus paramycoides should be isolated, improved and used as inoculum to help the in-digenous anaerobes.
- iv. The pH should be maintained at alkaline range.

### **Contribution to Knowledge**

1. Use and addition of cow blood which is nutrient-rich should be adopted in biogas optimization
2. Magnesium and calcium sulphate which can lead to water hardness have the ability to catalyse the reactions leading to biogas production.

### **Acknowledgement**

The authors are grateful to the journal for publishing this work.

### **References**

1. [Chen Y, Cheng JJ & Creamer KS \(2008\) Inhibition of anaerobic digestion process: A review. Bioresour. Technol 99: 44-64.](#)
2. Courtney B & Dorman (2003) World-wide fossil fuels chemistry department of Louisiana State University.
3. Ikeokwu MO, Chilakah G, Anyanwu I, Ndiukwu PC (2003) Effect of Addition of Certain Substances During Slurry Preparation to Optimize Biogas Production. International Journal of Research in Interdisciplinary Studies.
4. [Maravi P, Kumar A \(2020\) Isolation, screening and identification of cellulolytic bacteria from soil. Biotechnol J Int 2020: 1-8.](#)
5. [Nandimath AP, Kharat KR, Gupta SG,](#)

- Kharat AS (2016) Optimization of cellulase production for *Bacillus* sp. and *Pseudomonas* sp. soil isolates. *Afr J Microbiol Res* 10: 410-419.
6. Polizzi C, Alatraste-Mondragón F, Munz G (2018) The role of organic load and ammonia inhibition in anaerobic digestion of tannery fleshing. *Water Resour Ind* 19: 25-34.
  7. Sánchez E, Borja R, Travieso L, Martín A & Colmenarejo MF (2010) Effect of organic loading rate on the stability, operational parameters and performance of a secondary up flow anaerobic sludge bed reactor treating piggery waste. *Bioresource Technology* 96: 335-344.
  8. Wellinger A, Linberg A (2009) Biogas upgrading and utilization-IEA Bioenergy Task 24.

Copyright: © 2024 Osuji Malachy Ikeokwu This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.