

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Acknowledgement | i |
| Abstract | ii |
| Introduction | 1 |
| Materials and Methods | |
| Materials | 4 |
| Methods | |
| 1. Construction of crocodile TTR expression plasmids and recombinant TTR synthesis | 5 |
| 1.1 PCR amplification of TTR fragments and cloning into <i>Pichia pastoris</i> expression vectors | |
| 1.2 Preparation of expression vectors for transformation to <i>Pichia pastoris</i> | 5 |
| 1.3 Transformation of <i>Pichia pastoris</i> | 5 |
| 1.4 Screening for Mut ⁺ transformants | 6 |
| 1.5 Expression of recombinant <i>Pichia</i> clones | 6 |
| 2. Time course of TTR gene expression in yeast | 6 |
| 3. Media selection | 7 |
| 4. Purification of recombinant crocodile TTR from yeast culture supernatant | |
| 4.1 by affinity chromatography | 7 |
| 4.2 by preparative gel electrophoresis | 7 |
| 5. DNA sequencing | 7 |
| 6. Preparation of competent cells and DNA transformation | 8 |
| 7. Analysis of N-terminal amino and sequence of TTR | 8 |
| 8. Western Analysis | 8 |
| 9. Determination of the mass of TTR tetramer | 9 |
| 10. Purification of [¹²⁵ I]-L-thyroxine and [¹²⁵ I]-L-3,5,3'-triiodothyromine | 9 |
| 11. Measurement of the thyroid hormone binding by TTR | 9 |
| Results | 11 |
| Discussion | 17 |
| References | 22 |