Title The inhibitory effect of *Pichia Anomala* SKM-T on the growth of *Botrytis cinerea* in the post-harvest

storage of strawberries (Fragaria × ananassa Duche, Red-Pearl)

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Abstract

Simple competition plate bioassays of *Pichia anomala* SKM-T was conducted to evaluate its potential as a biological control agent that inhibit the growth of *Botrytis cinerea* in the post-harvest storage of strawberries. The occurrence rates of fungi on the surface of yeast-treated strawberries were evaluated during stored at 4°C. *P. anomala* SKM-T showed antifungal activity on an agar plate; furthermore, *P. anomala* SKM-T maintained its desirable antifungal activity on the surface of strawberries and its physicochemical properties during preservation. Sensory evaluation based on kinesthetics and interest in the fruits from the view of customers was performed. Due to its potential antifungal activity, *P. anomala* SKM-T could be a biological control agent against fungi spoilage particularly in the post-harvest storage process of strawberries.