CLAIMS

1. Process to produce a composition containing 5'-ribonucleotides comprising:
   a) subjecting a microorganism to autolysis under conditions at which a substantial part of the RNA remains in a form degradable into 5'-ribonucleotides;
   b) subjecting the autolysate to solid/liquid separation and recovering the RNA-containing cell wall fraction; and
   c) converting the RNA in the recovered RNA-containing cell wall fraction into 5'-ribonucleotides,
   whereby the solid/liquid separation in step b) is done at a pH of lower than 5.1 and higher than 1.0.

2. Process according to claim 1, wherein the pH in step b) is 4.2 or less and higher than 1.0

3. Process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the pH in step b) is 3.5 or less and higher than 1.0.

4. Process according to any of claims 1-3 wherein the pH is higher than 2.0.

5. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the recovering in step b) is done by centrifugation.

6. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein in step a) at least 50% of the RNA remains in a form degradable into 5'-ribonucleotides.

7. Process according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein in step b) at least 55% of the RNA remains associated with the cell wall fraction.

8. Process according to any one of claims 1-6 comprising after step c)
   d) subjecting the 5'-ribonucleotides to a solid-liquid fractionation and recovering the 5'-ribonucleotides.

CLAIMS

1. A process for producing a composition comprising 5'-ribonucleotides, said process comprising:

   a) subjecting a microorganism to autolysis under conditions at which at least 50% of the RNA remains in a form degradable into 5'-ribonucleotides;

   b) subjecting the autolysate from a) to solid/liquid separation and recovering an RNA-containing cell wall fraction; and

   c) converting RNA in the recovered RNA-containing cell wall fraction into 5'-ribonucleotides,

   wherein the solid/liquid separation in b) is done at a pH of lower than 4.0 and higher than 1.0, and wherein at least 75% of the RNA remains associated with the RNA-containing cell wall fraction obtained in b).

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the pH in b) is 3.5 or less and higher than 1.0.

3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the pH is higher than 2.0.

4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the recovering in b) is done by centrifugation.

5. The process according to claim 1, further comprising after step c):

   d) subjecting the 5'-ribonucleotides to a solid-liquid fractionation and recovering 5'-ribonucleotides.