

antibodies against swine specific pathogens which may cause a reduced immunogenicity of the immunogenic composition to be prepared. Thus, there is also a need for the cultivation of significant high yields of mycoplasma in a swine serum-free culturing system for the preparation of immunogenic compositions effective in preventing mycoplasma infection.

SUMMARY

[0003a] In one aspect, there is provided a method for the preparation of an immunogenic composition for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of mycoplasma infections in a subject comprising: a.) cultivation of mycoplasma bacteria in a serum-reduced, eukaryotic cell system; b.) obtaining an antigen of the mycoplasma bacteria; and c.) addition of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0003b] In another aspect, there is provided a method as defined herein for increasing the immunogenicity of an antigen.

[0003c] In another aspect, there is provided an immunogenic composition obtainable by the method as defined herein.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0004] Before the aspects of the present invention are described, it must be noted that as used herein and in the appended claims, the singular forms "a", "an", and "the" include plural reference unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Thus, for example, reference to "a or an antigen" includes a plurality of antigens, reference to the "cell" is a reference to one or more cells and equivalents thereof known to those skilled in the art, and so forth. Unless defined otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meanings as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention belongs. Although any methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice or testing of the present invention, the preferred methods, devices, and materials are now described. All publications mentioned herein are incorporated herein by reference for the purpose of describing and disclosing the cell lines, vectors, and methodologies as reported in the publications which might be used in connection with the invention. Nothing herein is to be construed as an admission that the invention is not entitled to antedate such disclosure by virtue of prior invention.

[0005] The present invention solves the problems inherent in the prior art and provides a distinct advance in the state of the art.

[0006] Generally, the present invention provides a method for the preparation of an immunogenic composition for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of mycoplasma infections in a subject comprising a) cultivation of mycoplasma bacteria in a serum-reduced, eukaryotic cell system; b) obtaining an antigen of the mycoplasma bacteria; and c) addition of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0007] Advantageously, the experimental data provided by the present invention disclose that mycoplasma bacteria can be produced in a serum-reduced, eukaryotic cell system.