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Abstract of the Disclosure:

A gene encoding an esterase originated from a microorganism of the genus *Serratia*, a mutant strain having high esterase productivity containing said gene, a recombinant plasmid comprising said gene inserted into a vector plasmid, a novel microorganism transformed with said recombinant plasmid, and a method for the production of an esterase which comprises cultivating the mutant strain or the novel microorganism as set forth above in a medium and collecting the produced esterase outside and inside the cells. Said mutant strain having high esterase productivity and new transformed microorganism have excellent esterase productivity and can produce the desired esterase in high purity on a large scale.

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