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(54) Title: METHODS FOR GENERATING AND SCREENING NOVEL METABOLIC PATHWAYS

(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to a novel drug discovery system for generating and screening molecular diversity. The system provides methods for mixing and cloning genetic materials from a plurality of species of organisms in combinatorial gene expression libraries to generate novel metabolic pathways and classes of compounds. The system also involves methods for pre-screening or identifying for host organisms containing a library that are capable of generating such novel pathways and compounds. The host organisms may be useful in drug screening for particular diseases, and in commercial production of compounds of interest. The methods of the invention are also useful in preserving the genomes of organisms that are known or prospective sources of drugs.