## Relationship between morphology and spore production of *Verticillium lecanii* in a 2.5L stirred-tank reactor

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It was investigated that the spore production of *Verticillium lecanii* CS-625 was associated with its morphological characteristics (hyphal length/width, spore length/width, and the number of tips). At 350 rpm and 1.0 vvm, maximum spore production  $(2.0 \times 10^9 \text{ spores/ml})$  and productivity  $(25.0 \times 10^9 \text{ spores/l·hr})$  were obtained at 144 hr and 84 hr respectively, in a 2.5 L stirred-tank reactor. In morphological characteristics, the number of tips and the mean spore length were affected by the agitation speed. At 350 rpm, the maximum number of tips  $(4.8 \times 10^8 \text{ tips/ml})$  at 72-hr cultivation) and the shortest mean spore length (2.8 µm after 60 hr) were obtained. From these results, we found that the number of tips and the mean spore length were closely related to spore production and productivity.