



Probiotics Cultures: A new alternative for the control of *Aedes aegypti*, *Anopheles albimanus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Program For The Study And Control Of Tropical Diseases

# Control and Vectors



*A. albimanus*



*A. aegypti*



*C. quinquefasciatus*

Insect of blood feeding

Malaria, Dengue, Encephalitis, West Nile, Filariasis etc.

Prevention and control of mosquitoes population:  
urgent and immediate demand

Conventional control strategies: application of a wide spectrum of  
chemicals and pesticides that produce adverse effects

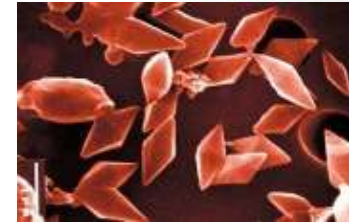
- High risk in humans and environment
- Appearance of a new generation of mosquito with resistant
- Increment in the price on new pesticides

Research on new Eco-friendly  
tools for the control of  
mosquito vectors

**Biocontrol**

# Control by Biological Agents

- *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israelensis* (Bti) and *B. sphaericus* (Bs): high effectiveness with low concentrations and safe for non target organisms.
- Resistance has been registered with Bs in mosquito population (Nielsen-Leroux et al., 1995; Poopathi et al., 1999; Su and Mulla, 2004),



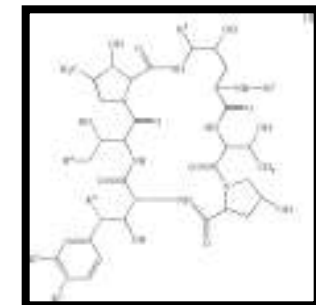
*Bacillus thuringiensis* :  
spore and protein  
crystals

Mix of toxins act on different  
targets of the insect



*Bacillus subtilis*

- *Bacillus subtilis* / lipopeptides with huge biotechnology potential and biopharmaceutical application
- Several isoforms of surfactins, fengycin and iturin.



Cycle Lipopeptides

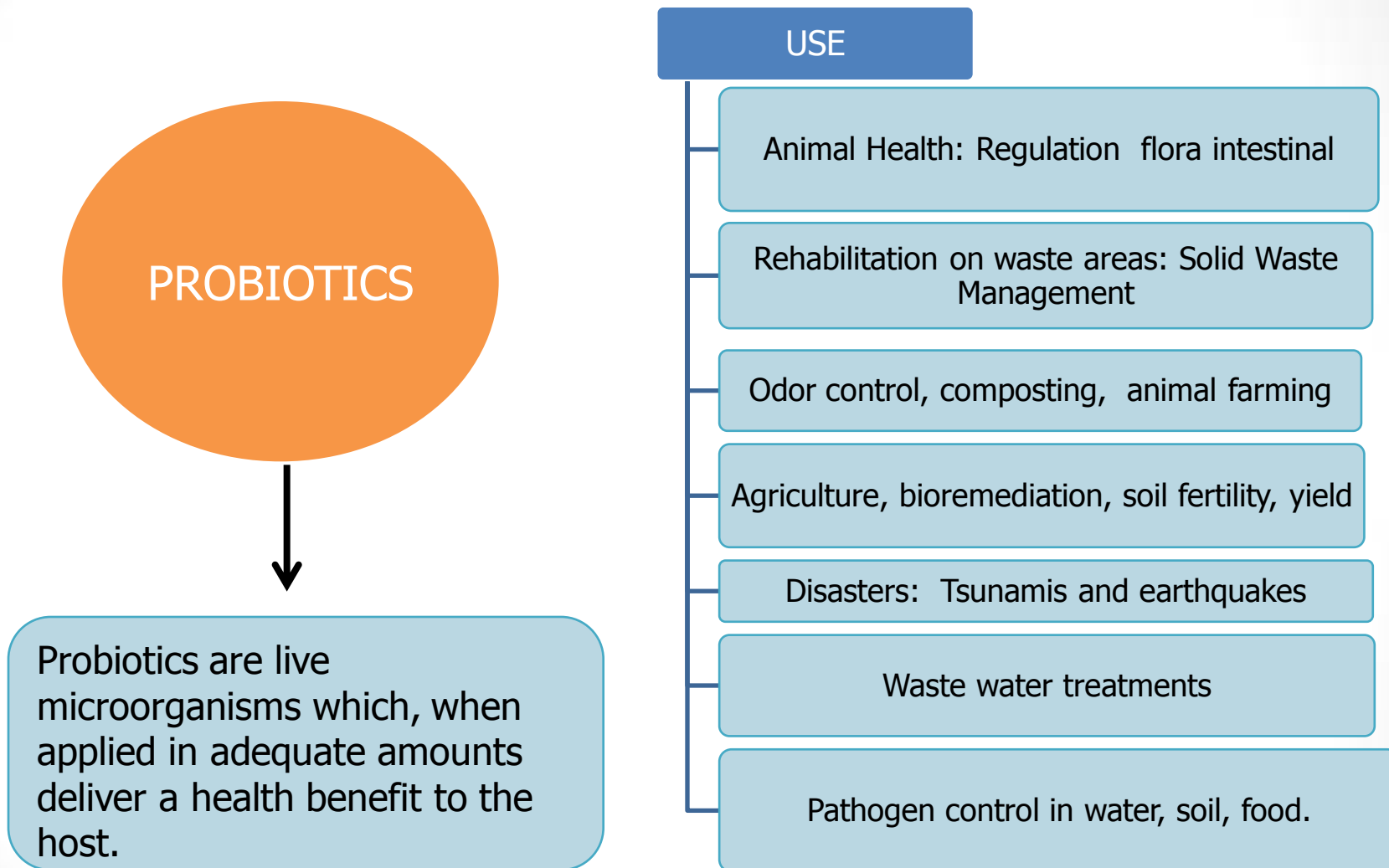
Microorganisms Consortia

<http://anupriti.blogspot.com/2009/07/data-storage-in-bacteria-astonishing.html>

<http://www.learner.org/courses/biology/archive/images/1006.html>

<http://www.freepatentsonline.com/6825003.html>

# Worldwide Applications



# Probiotic Species List

*Bacillus subtilis* var "natto"

*Bifidobacterium animalis*

*Bifidobacterium bifidum*

*Bifidobacterium longum*

*Lactobacillus acidophilus*

*Lactobacillus bulgaricus*

*Lactobacillus casei*

*Lactobacillus delbrueckii*

*Lactobacillus fermentum*

*Lactobacillus plantarum*

*Lactococcus lactis*

*Lactococcus lactis* subsp.

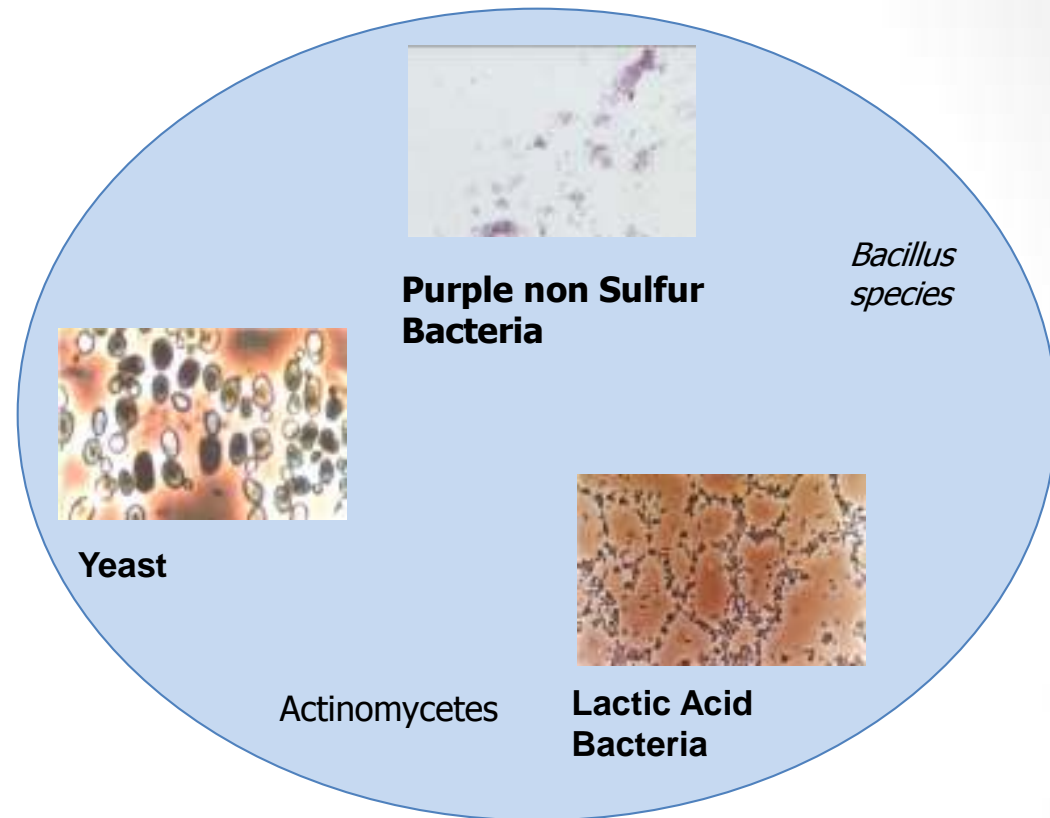
*Diacetylactis*

*Rhodopseudomonas palustris*

*Rhodopseudomonas*  
*spheroides*

*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

*Saccharomyces thermophilus*



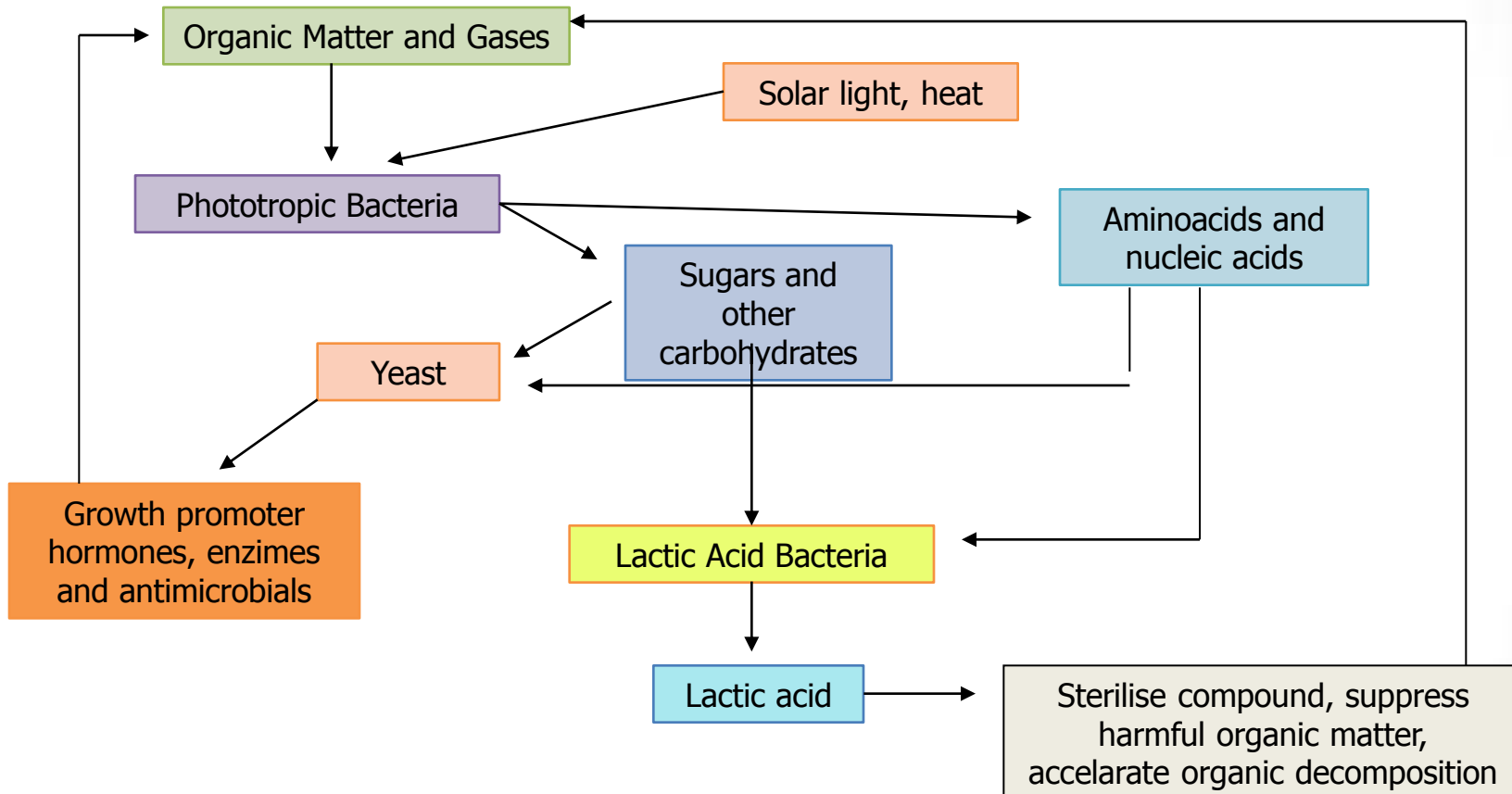
## Probiotics Consortia

- Grown in multi-strain bacteria
- Very genetically diverse
- More resilient in the "real world"

## Pure Culture

- Laboratory grown as single-strains
- Limited genetic diversity
- More vulnerable in the "real world"

# Compounds production path



# Initiative on the use of Probiotics

"Micro organismos for macro problems»



Year	Sample People	% Incidence	Total Cost Medicine
2003	2,609	12.23	US \$5,500
2004 start Probiotics	657	2.40	US \$1,200
2005	391	2.26	US \$841
2006	640	0.68	US \$617
2007	280	0.95	US \$237

India Tea Gardens



*Helopeltis theivora*

Was decided to extend the research to Arthropods of medical importance

# General Objective

To evaluate the efficacy of Probiotic cultures over immatures phases of mosquito *Aedes aegypti*, *Anopheles albimanus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* in laboratory conditions



# Specific Objectives

- To establish the susceptibility in immatures phases of *A. albimanus*, *Ae. aegypti* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* in different probiotic concentrations
- To determine the Lethal Concentration fifty ( $LC_{50}$ ) and ninety ( $LC_{90}$ ) of Probiotic cultures for larvae of *A. albimanus*, *A. Aegypti* and *Cx. Quinquefasciatus*
- To demonstrate the reproducibility of a product with low cost and eco friendly as biological control alternative

# Methodology

1

- Breed immature forms
- Larvae separation and account
- Probiotic dilutions preparation

2

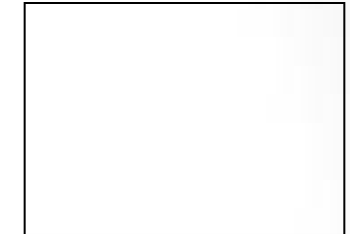
- Probiotic applications
- Measurement (1) of physicochemical factors at the beginning of the experiments

3

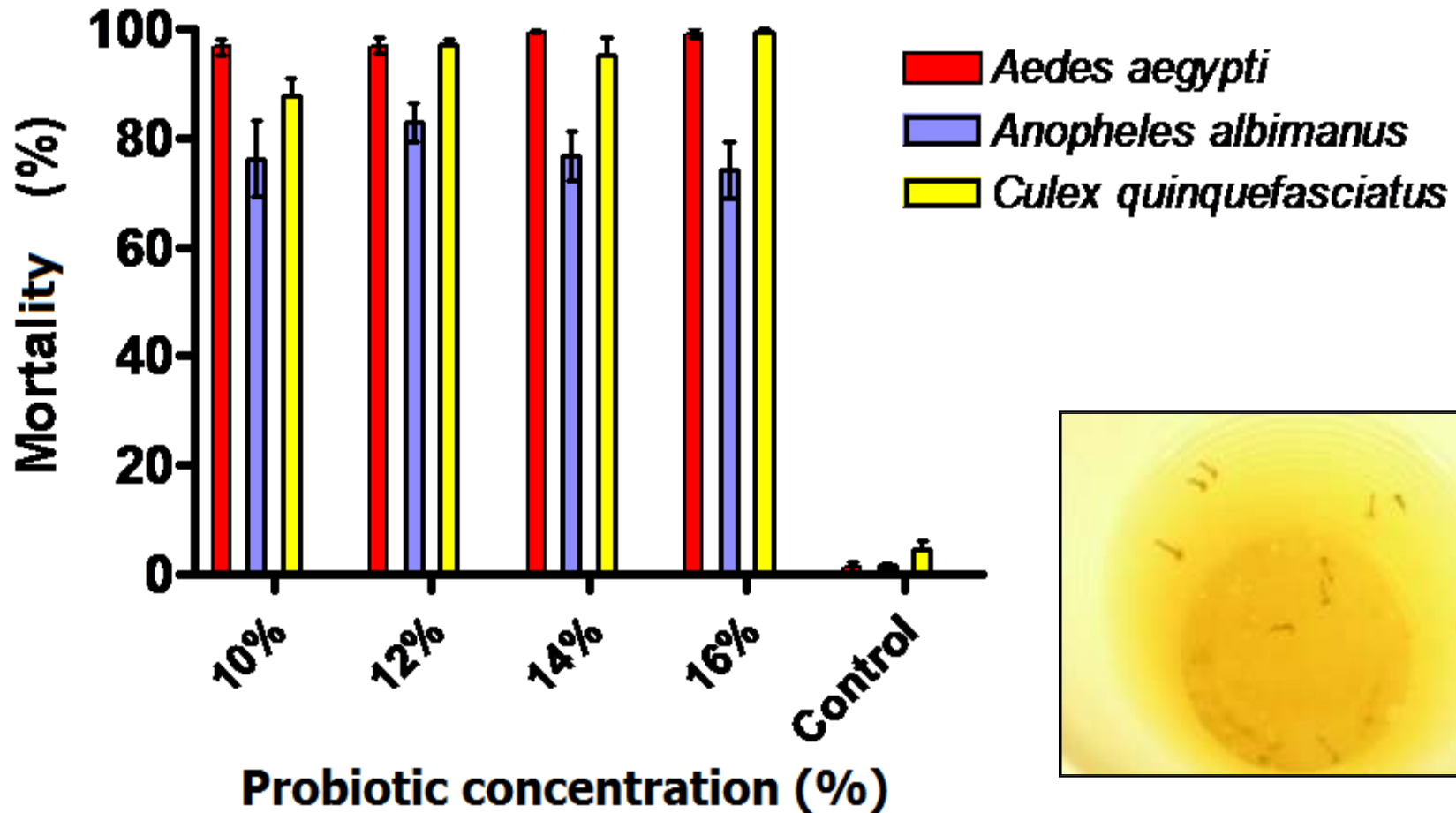
- Follow up and registration of mortality (24, 48, 72 and 120 hours)
- Measurement (2) of physicochemical factors at the end of the experiments

4

- Experiment conditions: average temperature:  $28\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2$  and Relative humidity  $70 \pm 5\%$
- Experiment repetitions / specie: 10 (4000 larvae / test)



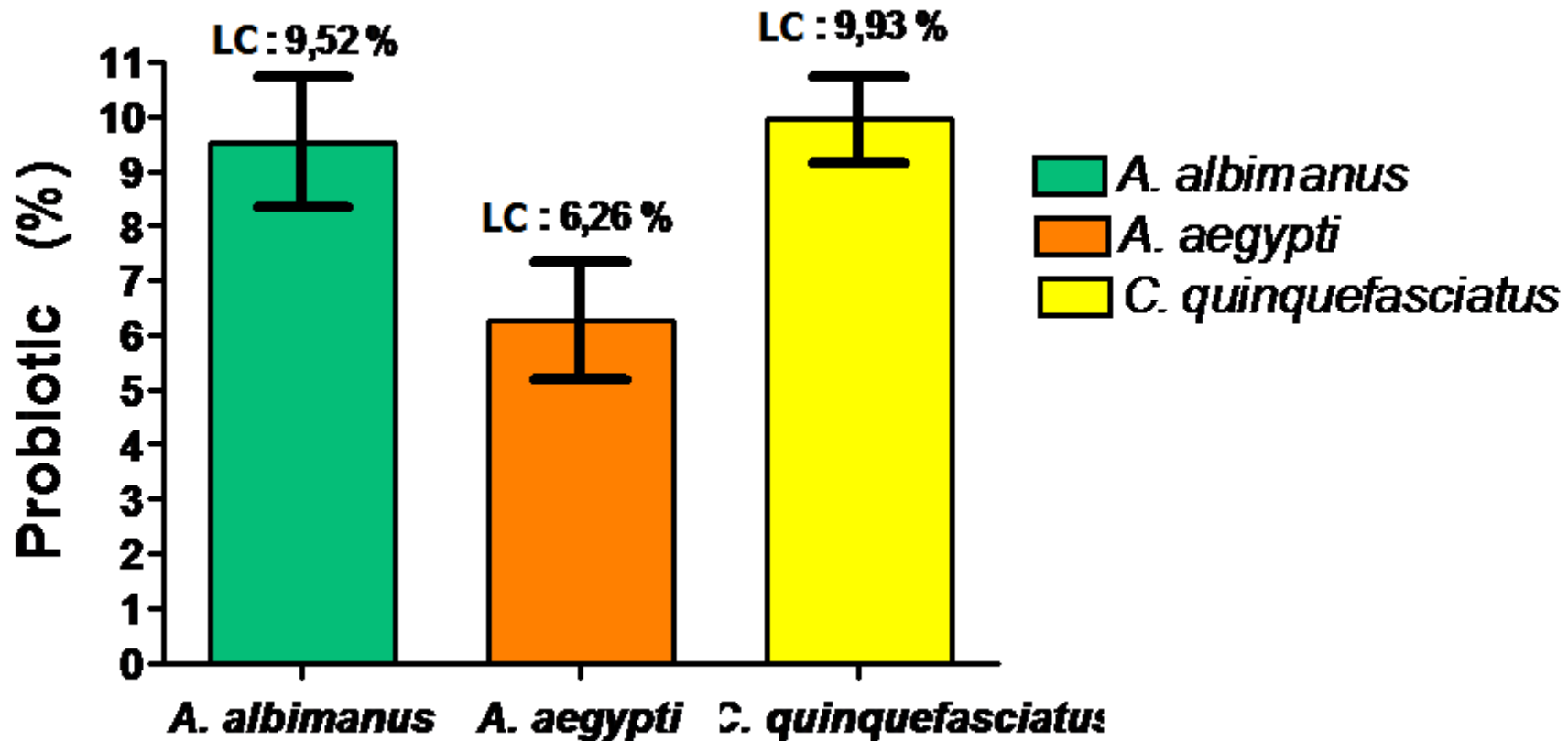
# Mortality (%) vs Concentration



Mortality 120 hours

- Susceptibility *A. aegypti* < *C. quinquefasciatus* < *A. albimanus* after 120 hours of application.

# Lethality (LC<sub>50</sub>) after 120 hours



- *A. aegypti* more susceptible with less probiotic concentration
- Geetha et al., 2007: Bti *C. quinquefasciatus* more susceptible (4 ng/ml) and *Anopheles stephensi* less susceptible (18 ng/ml)

# Physicochemical factors *Aedes aegypti*

Concentration	Measurement	pH	O <sub>2</sub> (%)	Conductivity (uS/m)
10 %	1	3,22 <b>a</b>	68,06 <b>c</b>	578,68 <b>e</b>
	2	3,22 <b>a</b>	39,06 <b>d</b>	623,68 <b>e</b>
	C -	7,03 <b>b</b>	66,87 <b>c</b>	66,93 <b>f</b>
12 %	1	3,21 <b>a</b>	64,62 <b>c</b>	660,06 <b>e</b>
	2	3,18 <b>a</b>	28,87 <b>d</b>	641,43 <b>e</b>
	C -	7,13 <b>b</b>	70,12 <b>c</b>	66,66 <b>f</b>
14 %	1	3,20 <b>a</b>	65,50 <b>c</b>	718,18 <b>e</b>
	2	3,18 <b>a</b>	27,31 <b>d</b>	704,18 <b>e</b>
	C -	7,05 <b>b</b>	69,50 <b>c</b>	65,73 <b>f</b>
16 %	1	3,20 <b>a</b>	68,93 <b>c</b>	785,18 <b>e</b>
	2	3,17 <b>a</b>	28,62 <b>d</b>	751,75 <b>e</b>
	C -	7,22 <b>b</b>	69,12 <b>c</b>	65,91 <b>f</b>

Different letters indicate significant statistical differences  $p < 0,0001$ . Test of Tukey. 1: Measurement of the factor at the beginning, 2: Measurement of the factor at the end of the experiment, C -: Control without application of probiotics.

# Physicochemical factors *Anopheles albimanus*

Concentration	Measurement	pH	O <sub>2</sub> (%)	Conductivity (uS/m)
10 %	1	3,23 <b>a</b>	50,18 <b>d</b>	582,31 <b>g</b>
	2	3,06 <b>b</b>	41,56 <b>e</b>	619,62 <b>g</b>
	C -	6,60 <b>c</b>	63,25 <b>f</b>	65,58 <b>h</b>
12 %	1	3,26 <b>a</b>	51,93 <b>d</b>	666,75 <b>g</b>
	2	3,03 <b>b</b>	40,62 <b>e</b>	713,81 <b>g</b>
	C -	6,63 <b>c</b>	66,00 <b>f</b>	65,61 <b>h</b>
14 %	1	3,26 <b>a</b>	51,62 <b>d</b>	709,43 <b>g</b>
	2	3,02 <b>b</b>	40,93 <b>e</b>	849,50 <b>g</b>
	C -	6,70 <b>c</b>	65,25 <b>f</b>	65,32 <b>h</b>
16 %	1	3,23 <b>a</b>	52,81 <b>d</b>	766,12 <b>g</b>
	2	3,00 <b>b</b>	37,50 <b>e</b>	848,93 <b>g</b>
	C -	6,71 <b>c</b>	64,87 <b>f</b>	63,53 <b>h</b>

Different letters indicate significant statistical differences  $p < 0,0001$ . Test of Tukey. 1: Measurement of the factor at the beginning, 2: Measurement of the factor at the end of the experiment, C -: Control without application of probiotics.

# Discussion

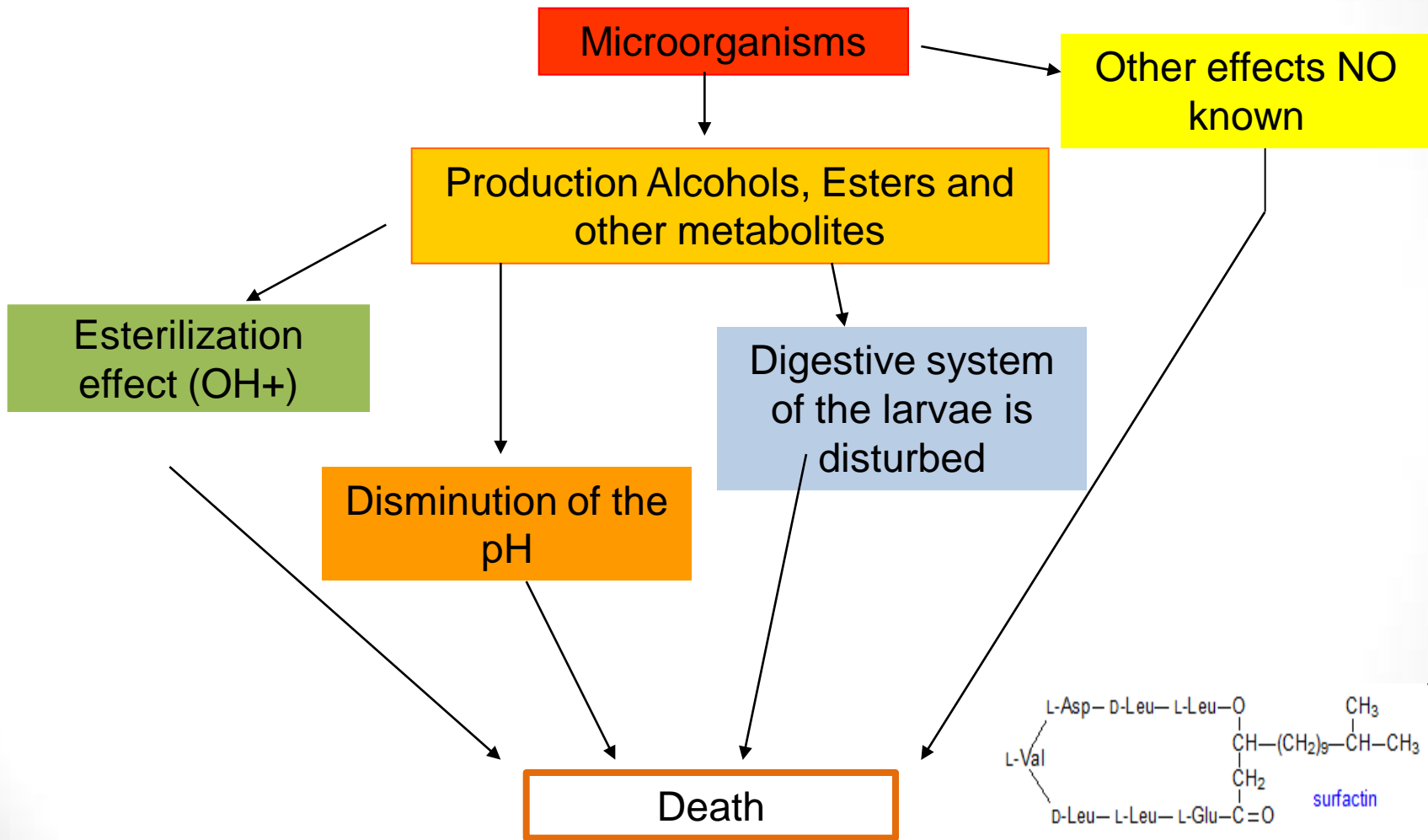
- Susceptibility varies according to the species. *A. aegypti* more susceptible than *A. albimanus*.
- $LC_{50}$  of the probiotic is high. In *B. subtilis* (5-25 ul/ml) (Geetha et al. , 2007)
- Cultivation of probiotic: synergistic effect and offers less option to resistance of mosquito populations to the biolarvicide, genetically more diverse
- Physico-chemical factors (pH, temperature, solar exposure and age of the larvae) influence the effectiveness of the formulations with bacteria or toxins against mosquito larvae (Mulla, 1985; Becker et al. , 1992; Mittal et al. , 1995; Nayar et al. , 1999).
- Lipopeptids of *B. subtilis* : insensitive to sunlight and equally effective to kill larvae. Advantage over the conventional biolarvicides *Bti*, and *Bs*.
- Ecofriendly alternative and without lethal effects compared with pesticides.

# Discussion

- The effectiveness *Bs.* and *Bti.* against larvae of anopheline mosquitoes is reduced about 10 times in laboratory tests to 21°C compared with tests, carried out at 31 °C (Mittal, 2003).
- Studies with raw lipopeptides indicated a reduction in the larvicidal power around 4% by 23°C , on its original activity that occurs at 35°C (K. Das & A. K. Mukherjee, 2006).
- Strains of *B. subtilis* high thermostable power between two strains evaluated after periods of warming 100°C by 60 minutes (K. Das & A. K. Mukherjee, 2006).
- Toxins of proteins of *Bti* and *Bs* are highly sensitive to sunlight (UV radiation). Exposure to sunlight 6 hours reduces the strength larvicide near the 50 and 75% respectively (Mittal, 2003).
- The probiotic effect up to a month and shelf life about a year



# Explanation for the Mechanism of Action



Cycle Lipopeptides : *B. subtilis*

# Conclusions

- Susceptibility presented variations according to the species (*A. aegypti* < *C. quinquefasciatus* < *A. albimanus*) after 120 hours of application.
- *Aedes aegypti* more susceptible to the probiotic, mortality > 90 %; *A. albimanus* mortality ~ 80% and less susceptible. Only *C. quinquefasciatus* effect depending on dose.
- LC<sub>50</sub> for *Aedes aegypti* was the lowest (6.26 %) and statistically different to that obtained for the other species.
- *Aedes aegypti* , presented less variation in physico-chemical factors indicating greater effectiveness to the larvicide.

# Perspectives

- Studies in no target organisms: fishes and insects
- Studies on the mechanism of action and the synergist effect
- Ecofriendly alternative
- More field studies that will bring more information in the behaviour of the natural probiotics and larvae/pupa control on wild mosquito.

# Acknowledgement

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