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Identification and cloning of the Neurospora crassa glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene, gpd-1

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Abstract

In work initially intended to use the am gene coding sequences as a reporter gene, 5' RACE PCR (Frohman *et al.*, 1988 Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA. 85:8998-9002) with three gene specific nested primers was performed. The product was cloned and sequenced, but found not to represent the *am* gene. Comparison to sequences in Genbank revealed that the product could encode a product homologous to glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GPD) from a variety of other organisms. Consequently the PCR product was used to screen a lambda gt-11 expression library (Sachs *et al.* 1986 J. Biol. Chem 261:869-873). The 1.3 kb insert from one cDNA clone was sequenced (Figure 1) and used to screen a Neurospora genomic library made in an EMBL-3 vector by E. Cambareri. All of the positive clones had a 7 kb *Bam*HI fragment. Relevant portions of one of the genomic clones was sequenced (Figure 1) revealing two introns. Although the complete genomic clone was not sequenced, comparison of restriction fragments from the cDNA and genomic clones indicated that no other introns are present in the Neurospora *gpd-1* gene.

Identification and cloning of the *Neurospora crassa* glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene, *gpd-1*

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In work initially intended to use the *am* gene coding sequences as a reporter gene, 5' RACE PCR (Frohman *et al.*, 1988 Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA. **85**:8998-9002) with three gene specific nested primers was performed. The product was cloned and sequenced, but found not to represent the *am* gene. Comparison to sequences in Genbank revealed that the product could encode a product homologous to glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GPD) from a variety of other organisms. Consequently the PCR product was used to screen a lambda gt-11 expression library (Sachs *et al.* 1986 J. Biol. Chem **261**:869-873). The 1.3 kb insert from one cDNA clone was sequenced (Figure 1) and used to screen a Neurospora genomic library made in an EMBL-3 vector by E. Cambareri. All of the positive clones had a 7 kb *Bam*HI fragment. Relevant portions of one of the genomic clones was sequenced (Figure 1) revealing two introns. Although the complete genomic clone was not sequenced, comparison of restriction fragments from the cDNA and genomic clones indicated that no other introns are present in the Neurospora *gpd-1* gene.

Southern blot analysis of restriction enzyme digested DNA from Oak Ridge and Mauriceville strains revealed a polymorphism of kpnI sites at or near the gpd-1 locus, allowing RFLP mapping using the small set of tester progeny as described by Metzenberg *et al.* (Metzenberg *et al.* 1984, Neurospora Newsl. **31**:35-39). The results shown in Table 1 indicate that gpd-1 is located on linkage group IIR near the arg-12 locus. Northern blot analysis using gpd-1 cDNA as probe revealed a single strong band of 1.3 kb in length (data not shown).

One interesting question is how did we clone the gpd-1 fragment by 5' RACE when we were using a nested set of three specific am primers for the amplification? When the sequence was analyzed it became apparent that each of the primers had 3' ends with five-to-six base pairs of perfect complementarity to sequences near the 5' end of the gpd-1 message and that these sequences appeared in the same order in the gpd-1 message as did the "specific" sequences in the am message. Given the abundance of gpd-1 message this made amplification of the 5' end of the gpd-1 gene probable during the 5' RACE experiment. Clones with either cDNA or genomic inserts are available from the Fungal Genetics Stock Center.

GENE arg-12	11 (O)	12	13	14 M	15 M	16 (M)	17 M	18 M	19	20
gpd-1	(0)	0	0	M	M	(M)	M	M	0	0
gpa i	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
arg-12	М	0	М	0	0	М	0	0	М	М
gpd-1	М	0	М	0	0	М	0	0	М	М

Table 1. RFLP mapping of *gpd-1*a.

aA comparison of the segregation of the *gpd-1 Kpn*I RFLP with segregation data for *arg-12* which is located on LGIIR; strains numbered 11-30 represent FGSC strains 4411-4430. O or M in a particular strain indicates a fragment identical to that of the Oakridge or Mauriceville strain respectively. Strain 4411 is the Oak Ridge (O) parent and strain 4416 is the Mauriceville (M) parent.

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CCCGGTGACGGAGTGCTCTGGCTGCTTGTTGGGAATTGCCGAGGCTCGCAACTGGAGCAG60TCAGCAATGTCAGCATCGACATGTTCAAGTTGACTCATTTCAGTTGGTATTACAAAGACT120GAACCCGTGAAGCACATAGCGTGACCGAATCACGGATTCTCCGGCAAGGAGCTTGTTTCA180TTGTTGCCTCTTGTCGGCGGCTTTCAAAGCAAAAAAGGATGGGAATCTCTTCATGCCAAG240GCCGCGGCCGAGTACTGCGCTAACACTAGACGCCAAGCCATTGGAGAGTGGCCCCACCTC300ATCCCACCATGTCCCACCACCACAGCCCACCATGGAGCAAAGCGTATGATGCAACCACGA360TGGGAGGCGGCTGGTGGGATGGAAGGAACGAGCAAAACCACCCACCCATTGACCACCCCA420
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CCCTCAAACC CGTTCAGGGG TACCACAGGC AGATAATAGA <u>CTTC</u> ATCATC 720	GGTGA TGATA TAGTA ATCCT	TGAGG A ACCAG A CAAGA A CGCGA	AGCTCCCC ACTGGACG ATCTCCTC IACCAAGI	CC AC TC CT CG AG <u>CT GC</u> TC AC	CTTTT CAGGG <u>CTCCC</u> TTCCA	TGA (GCC (CAG (AAC 7 ACC 4	CATT CCTC CTGG <u>TTTT</u> AAAA	TGGC. CTTG AGTC <u>TTCT</u> CCCT	AG G CC G GG C TT C TC T	ACTO TGGO <u>TTTC</u> TCCA	GGGGA GAAA(CTCTT AAAC(AT CT IG	ļ	480 540 600	
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Figure 1. Sequence of the *gpd-1* gene. The sequence presented represents a combination of sequences from cDNA and genomic DNA. The first nucleotide of the cDNA sequenced is at 677. This is 5 nucleotides downstream of a consensus fungal transcriptional start site at position 666-673 (Bruchez *et al.* 1993 Fungal Genet. Newsl. **40**:89-96). The pyrimidine box characteristically found upstream of the transcriptional start sites of fungal genes is underlined. The two introns are indicated by dashed overlining. There was no polyadenylated tract in the cDNA sequenced