

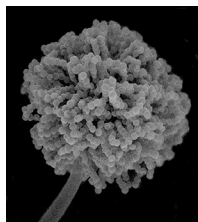


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COVER IMAGE



Cover photograph: Electron microscopic view ($\times 1,000$) of the white koji fungus *Aspergillus luchuensis* mut. *kawachii*, used for production of the Japanese distilled spirit shochu. The white koji fungus secretes large amounts of glycoside hydrolases, which decompose starches contained in cereal ingredients such as rice, barley, and sweet potato. In addition, the white koji fungus also secretes a large amount of citric acid, which prevents the growth of contaminant microbes during the fermentation process. (Photo courtesy of T. Futagami, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima, Japan.) (See related article at e03136-18.) (Copyright © 2019 American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.)

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