

# Review of: "Techno-Economic Fermentative Microbe-Based Industrial Production of Lactic Acid (LA): Potential Future Prospects and Constraints"

C. M. Narayanan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Institute of Technology, Durgapur

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors report a survey on developments on solid-state fermentation of sugar cane bagasse to lactic acid. Though a large number of references have been cited, the survey lacks depth and substance : 1. It appears to be a mundane listing of references downloaded from the literature. Little attempt has been made to critically analyze each study, to highlight the technical shortcomings, limitations of each. 2. Critical comparison among reported studies, discussion on the adaptability of reported findings to industrial manufacture of lactic acid are also absent. 3. Bagasse being fibrous, shredding it into particles of large specific surface is a relatively difficult task. This combined with restricted adaptability of microbial species to solid substrate makes solid-state fermentation less attractive than conventional liquid phase anaerobic digestion. The analysis of reported studies must have to be performed keeping this fact in mind. 4. Expert comments leading to expertised recommendations are a must for a review article on technology/ engineering. In the absence of the same, the manuscript does not make interesting reading, neither is it fit for publication. 5. Though claimed as a techno- economical analysis in the title, no relevant economic analysis has been discussed in the paper. 6. Quality of technical writing demands a lot of refinement. There are repeated statements starting as,"A study reports ..... "This makes poor reading. Sentence constructions of following format are most preferred : "Jiang and Tao [ 40 ] have conducted studies on.....and have observed that ..... ".Or, "Studies on ..... have been reported by Jiang and Tao [40] . They report that ..... ".The manuscript, therefore, demands a thorough language editing as well.The manuscript must be revised thoroughly based on the above comments and only thereafter, it can be considered for publication.