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Thermal and acidic pre-treatments applied to cow manure: effects on pathogenic bacteria persistence and on biogas production during thermophilic anaerobic digestion

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Anaerobic digestion

H. Salsali *et al.* (2006); H. Salsali *et al.* (2008); Scaglia *et al.* (2014); Orzi *et al.* (2015); Liu *et al.* (2019)



« Green » energy

Agricultural anaerobic digestion

Biogas

Digestate



Anaerobic digestion

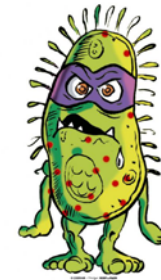
H. Salsali *et al.* (2006); H. Salsali *et al.* (2008); Scaglia *et al.* (2014); Orzi *et al.* (2015); Liu *et al.* (2019)



Hygienization

but

Pathogenic bacteria persistence



Pre-treatments

Acidic pre-treatment



Thermal pre-treatment



Combination between 2 pre-treatments

Objectives

Evaluate impact of pre-treatments on cow manure

1) Ability to reduce pathogen survival

2) Impact on biogas production



Types of pre-treatments and bacteria enumeration

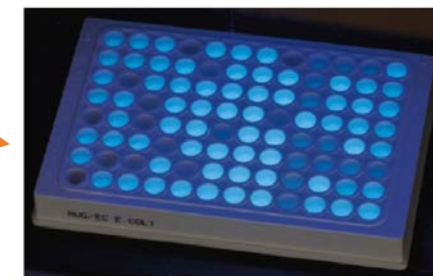
Acidic pre-treatments :
equimolar mixture of
acetic, propionic and
butyric acids

Pre-treatments	Acidic pre-treatments	Thermal pre-treatment	Acido-thermal pre-treatments
	1.5 g/L	1 hour at 70°C	1.5 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C
	3 g/L		3 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C
	6 g/L		6 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C

Cow manure



Clostridium perfringens (spores)



Enterococcus sp. and *Escherichia coli*

Biochemical methane potential (BMP) production assessment



Inoculum = agricultural anaerobic digester

4/5 inoculum
(Volatile Solids basis)

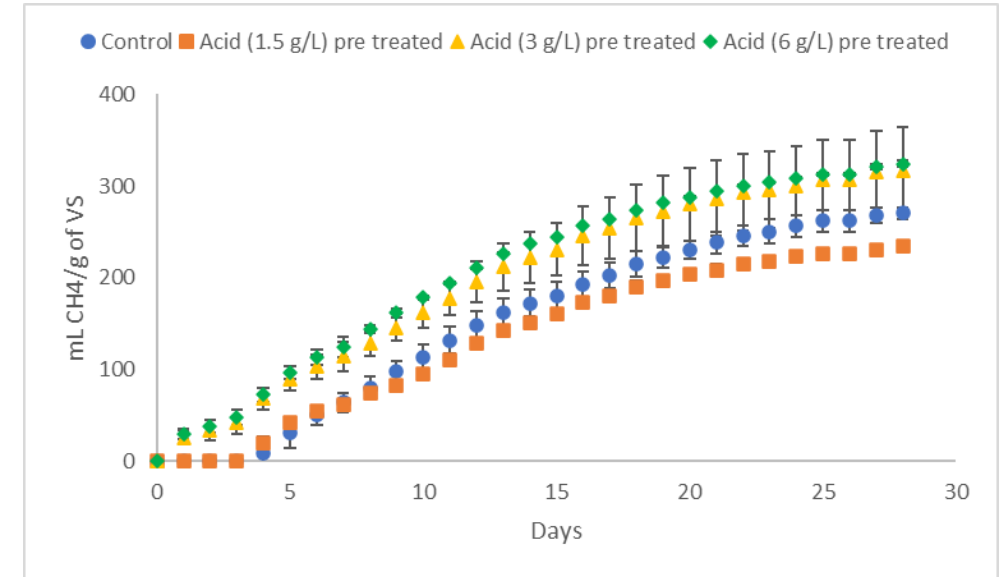
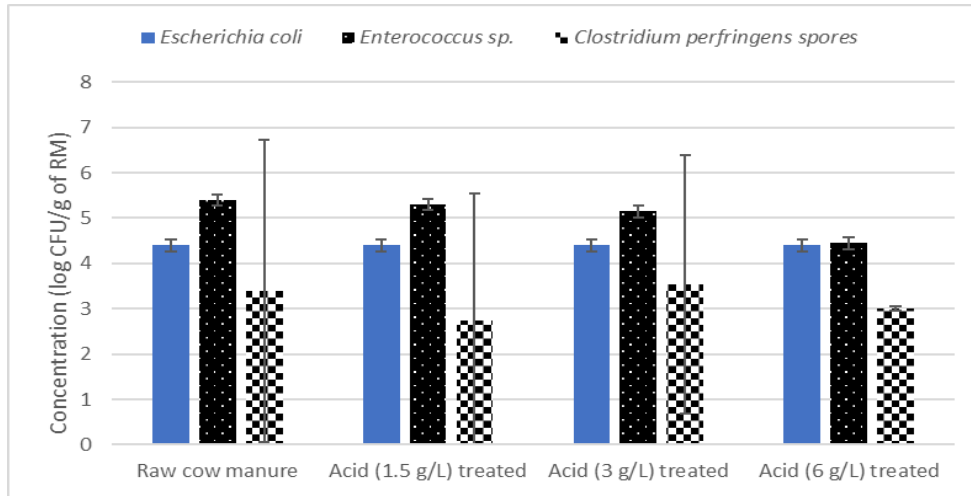


Substrate = cow manure

1/5 substrate
(Volatile Solids basis)

Thermophilic conditions
(55°C)

Acidic pre-treatments



Bacteria	Acidic pre-treatments
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	No influence
<i>Enterococcus sp.</i>	1-log reduction at 6 g/L
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> spores	No influence ?

Substrate	Influence on overall CH4 production
Pre-treated (1.5 g/L) cow manure	No influence
Pre-treated (3 g/L) cow manure	Slight increase
Pre-treated (6 g/L) cow manure	

Acidic pre-treatments

D. C. Devlin *et al.* (2011); T. Tommasi *et al.* (2008); Y. Li *et al.* (2021)

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Faecal contamination indicators

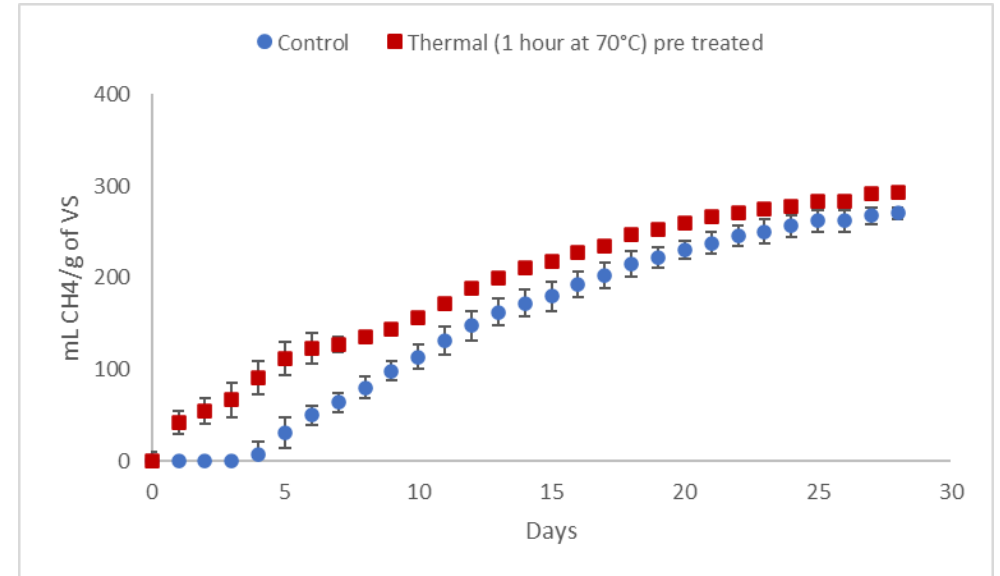
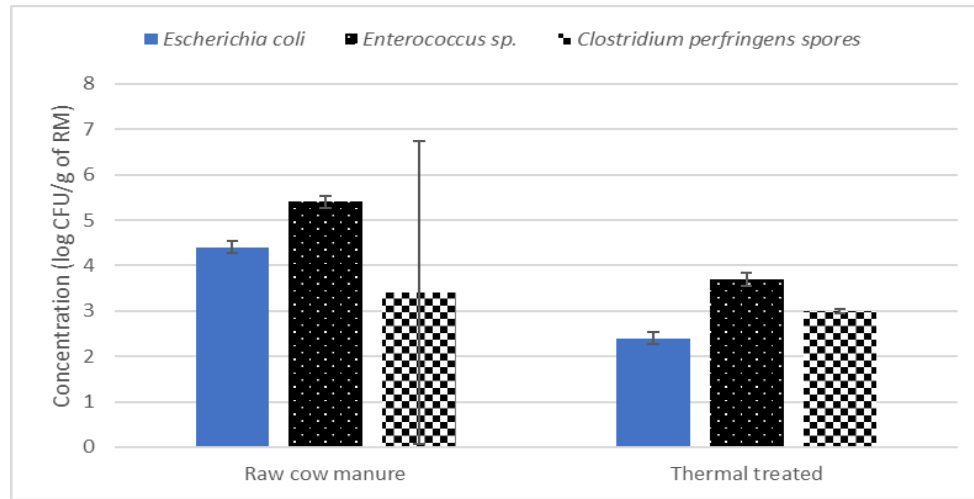
Influence of matrix type

Ease the anaerobic digestion's first step

Sporulating bacteria

Only acid : no effect

Thermal pre-treatment



Bacteria	Thermal pre-treatment
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2-log reduction
<i>Enterococcus sp.</i>	
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> spores	No influence ?

Substrate	Influence on overall CH ₄ production
Thermal pre-treated cow manure	No real influence

Thermal pre-treatment

A.-M. Pourcher *et al.* (2009); X. Liu *et al.* (2019); Y. Li *et al.* (2021)

Bacteria	Thermal pre-treatment
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2-log reduction
<i>Enterococcus sp.</i>	
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> spores	No influence ?

Substrate	Influence on overall CH ₄ production
Thermal pre-treated cow manure	No real influence

Faecal contamination indicators

« Jumbled matrix »

Not a pure culture

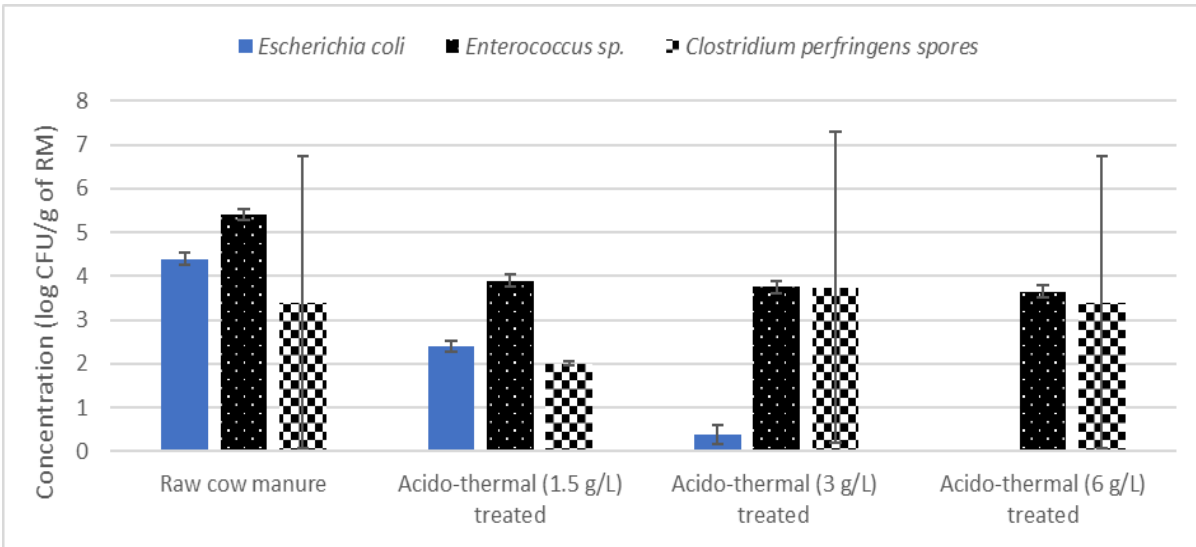
Sporulating bacteria

Weak effect on spores

Organic matter solubilisation

Acido-thermal pre-treatments

H. Salsali *et al.* (2008)



Bacteria	Acido-thermal pre-treatment (1.5 g/L)	Acido-thermal pre-treatment (3 g/L)	Acido-thermal pre-treatment (6 g/L)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2-log reduction	4-log reduction	total reduction
<i>Enterococcus sp.</i>	1.5-log reduction	1.6-log reduction	1.7-log reduction
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> spores	High standard deviation		

Faecal contamination indicators

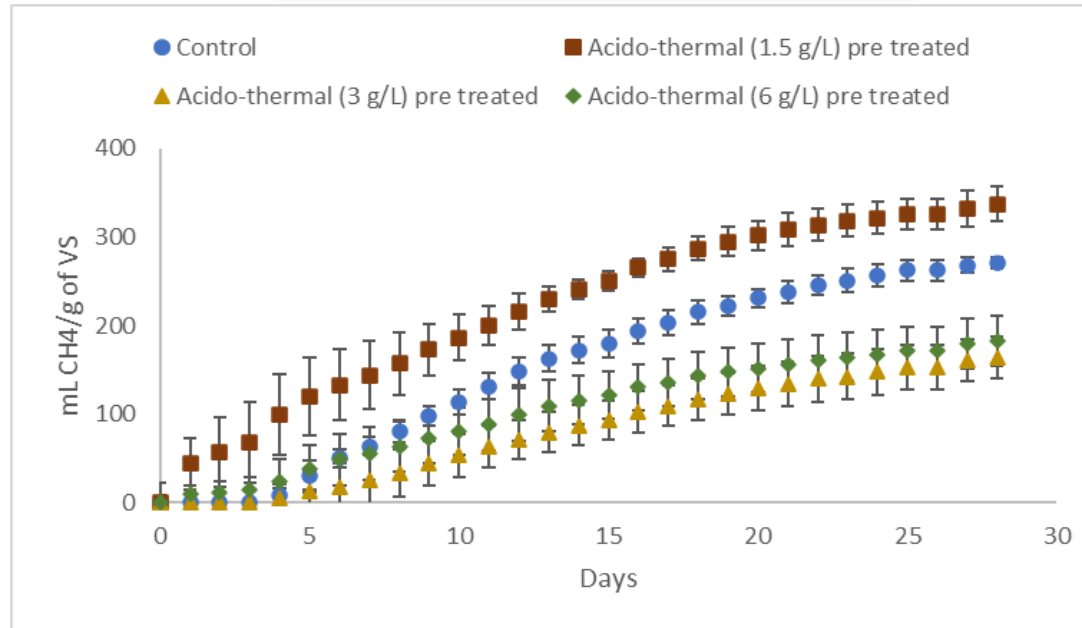
Synergistic effect

Sporulating bacteria

Effect on *C. perfringens* but both vegetative and spores
H. Salsali *et al.* (2008)

Acido-thermal pre-treatments

F. Passos *et al.* (2017)



Substrate	Influence on overall CH4 production
Acido-thermal (1.5 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C) pre-treated cow manure	No real influence
Acido-thermal (3 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C) pre-treated cow manure	Lower methane production
Acido-thermal (6 g/L + 1 hour at 70°C) pre-treated cow manure	

Higher methane production F. Passos *et al.* (2017)

Reduce pathogen survival

Deep impact on *Escherichia coli* and
Enterococcus sp.

No real impact on spores

Synergistic effects between two pre-treatments

Impact on biogas production

Lower methane production with acido-thermal pre-treatments

How could we explain persistence of spores ?

Why a lower methane production ?

Thank you for your attention



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