

Press release

Candies to fight Caries

Berlin, 22 October 2013 – Bacteria causing caries can be decreased in the mouth by ingesting particular lactic acid bacteria, writes a team of authors, lead by the Berlin-based microbiologist Prof. Dr. Christine Lang, in a contribution to the international magazine “Probiotics and Antimicrobial Proteins”. In a clinical study, the researchers found that by applying even just once a specific lactic acid bacterium, provided as a candy, the amount of bacteria causing caries in the participants’ saliva was decreased.

By contrast to the current anti-caries prophylaxis using fluoride toothpaste, the new concept relies on a different approach. “We not only toughen tooth enamel against the acids produced by caries bacteria”, explains Ms. Lang, “but also reduce the amount of these bacteria, which ideally will prevent any negative effects on tooth enamel.”

The article offered an “important corroboration of our strategy of systematically searching for and identifying new agents with pro-biotic effects in strains of yeast and lactic acid bacteria”, states Ms. Lang, who is also the managing director of the Berlin-based biotechnology company Organobalance GmbH. Organobalance has a collection of some 8,000 of these strains and uses biological screening assays to identify agents with the desired properties, qualifies these in laboratory trials, and confirms them in studies. Organobalance also recently found a bacterial strain to effectively combat the Helicobacter bacterium which is associated with gastric ulcers and other diseases.

“Nature offers so many ways of preventing diseases or lowering resource use in industry and manufacturing”, says Ms. Lang. “Biotechnology has the task of researching and utilizing these positive characteristics of biological resources”.

For further information, please contact:

ORGANOBALANCE GmbH

Dr. Klaus Pellengahr

Gustav-Meyer-Allee 25

13355 Berlin

Fon (030) 46307 200

Fax (030) 46307 210

www.organobalance.de