Production and Properties of Biosurfactants from a Newly Isolated 
*Pseudomonas fluorescens* HW-6 Growing on Hexadecane

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The newly isolated from industrial wastewater *Pseudomonas fluorescens* strain HW-6 produced glycolipid biosurfactants at high concentrations (1.4–2.0 g l\textsuperscript{-1}) when grown on hexadecane as a sole carbon source. Biosurfactants decreased the surface tension of the air/water interface by 35 mN m\textsuperscript{-1} and possessed a low critical micelle concentration value of 20 mg l\textsuperscript{-1}, which indicated high surface activity. They efficiently emulsified aromatic hydrocarbons, kerosene, \textit{n}-paraffins and mineral oils. Biosurfactant production contributed to a significant increase in cell hydrophobicity correlated with an increased growth of the strain on hexadecane. The results suggested that the newly isolated strain of *Ps. fluorescens* and produced glycolipid biosurfactants with effective surface and emulsifying properties are very promising and could find application for bioremediation of hydrocarbon-polluted sites.

\textit{Key words:} Biosurfactants, Glycolipids, Hydrophobicity, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*