

## **Streamlining biological recycling of poly(ethylene terephthalate) via pre-treatment methods**

Katarzyna E. Kosiorowska<sup>1</sup>, Antonio D. Moreno<sup>2</sup>, Raquel Iglesias<sup>2</sup>, Piotr Biniarz<sup>3</sup>, Aleksandra M. Mironczuk<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Department of Biotechnology and Food Microbiology, Chełmońskiego 37, 51-630, Wrocław, Poland

<sup>2</sup>Advanced Biofuels and Bioproducts Unit, Department of Energy, Research Centre for Energy, Environment and Technology (CIEMAT), Avda. Complutense 40, 28040 Madrid, Spain

<sup>3</sup>Winnica Alvarium, Ostaszów 23a, 59-170 Przemków

\*Corresponding author: [aleksandra.mironczuk@upwr.edu.pl](mailto:aleksandra.mironczuk@upwr.edu.pl)

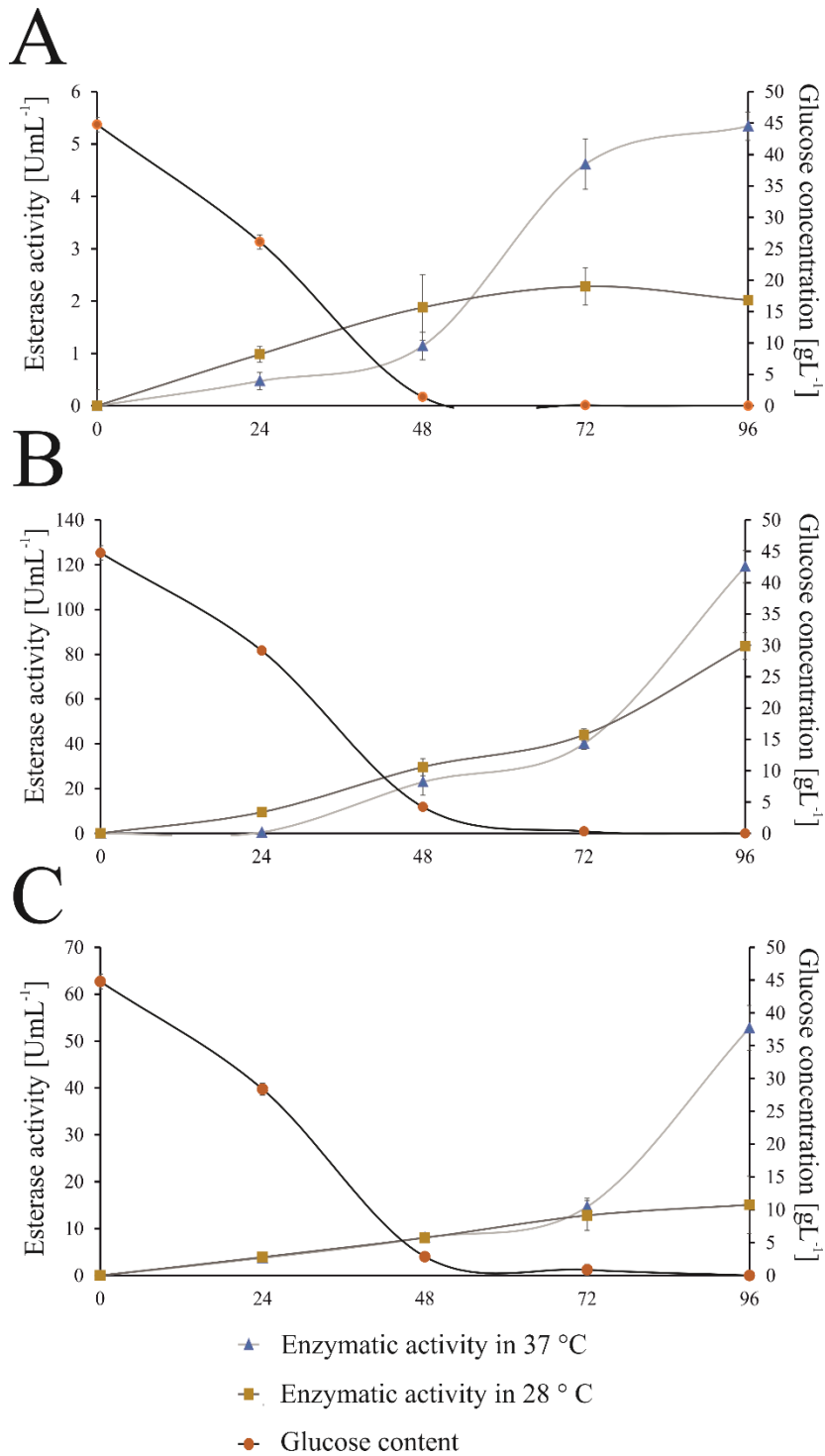
[katarzyna.kosiorowska@upwr.edu.pl](mailto:katarzyna.kosiorowska@upwr.edu.pl)

[david.moreno@ciemat.es](mailto:david.moreno@ciemat.es)

[raquel.iglesias@ciemat.es](mailto:raquel.iglesias@ciemat.es)

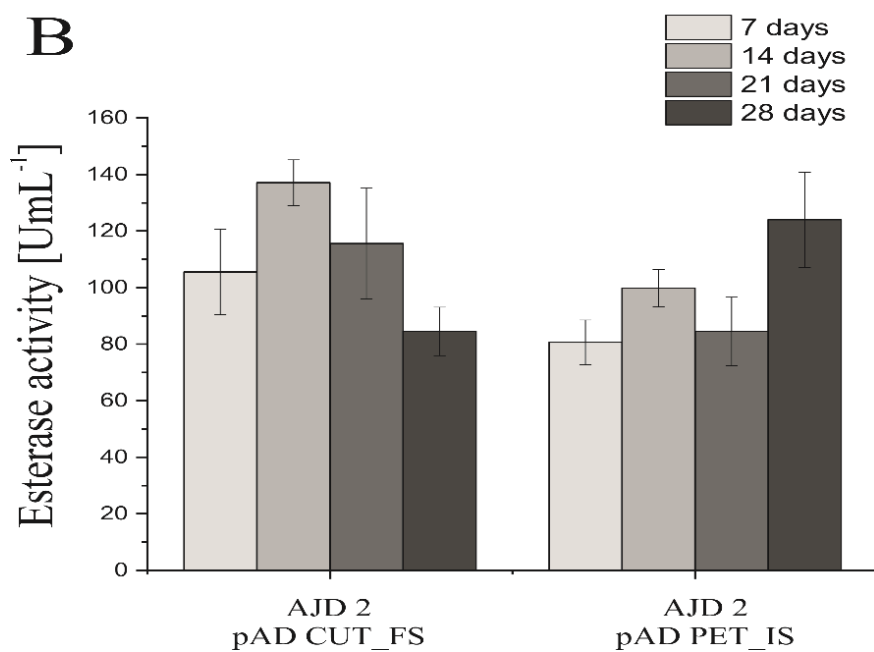
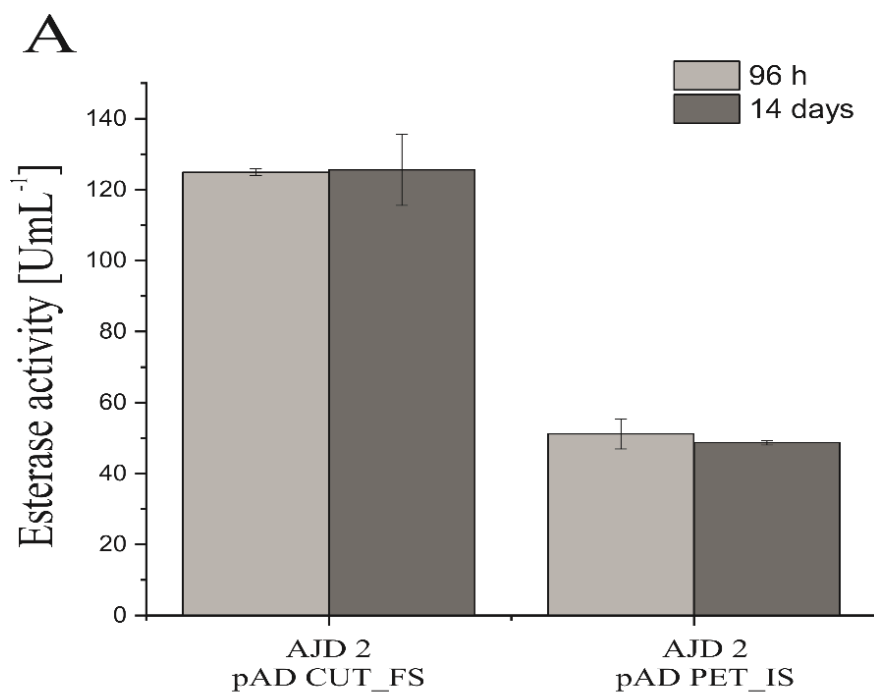
[winnicaalvarium@gmail.com](mailto:winnicaalvarium@gmail.com)

Keywords: pre-treatment, artificial ageing, PET grinding, PETase; cutinase; *Yarrowia lipolytica*; plastic films;



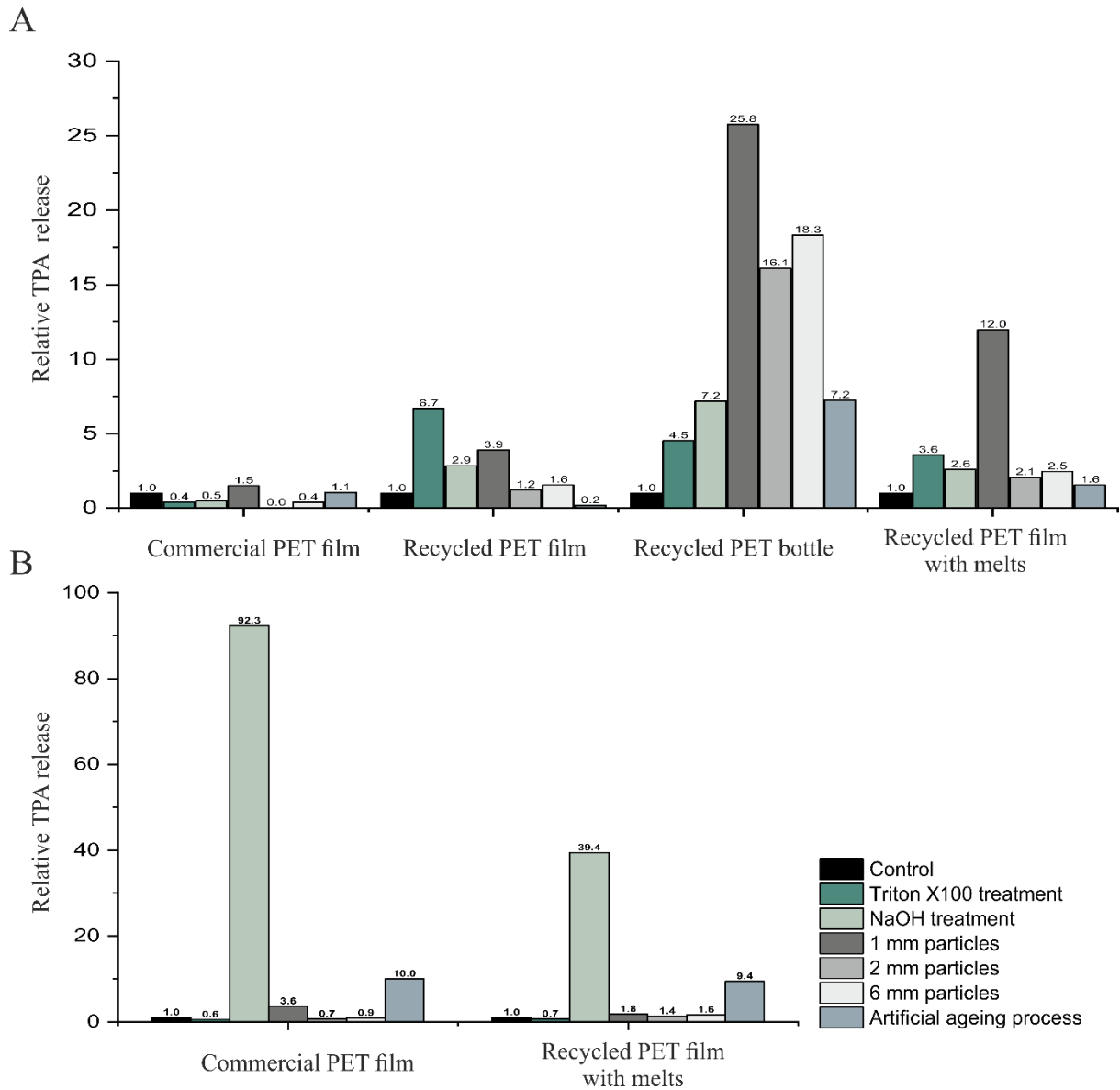
Supplementary Fig. 1

Correlation of the esterase activity in the supernatant and glucose consumption by strain AJD 2 (A), AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS (B) and AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS (C). The esterase activity was measured at both the optimal temperature for enzyme action (37 °C) and the temperature used in yeast culture (28 °C).



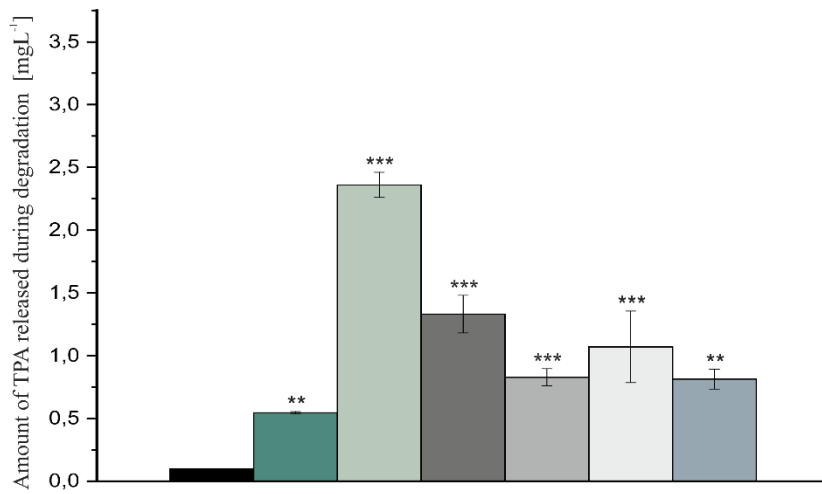
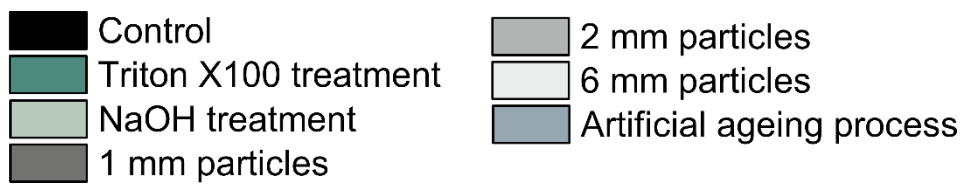
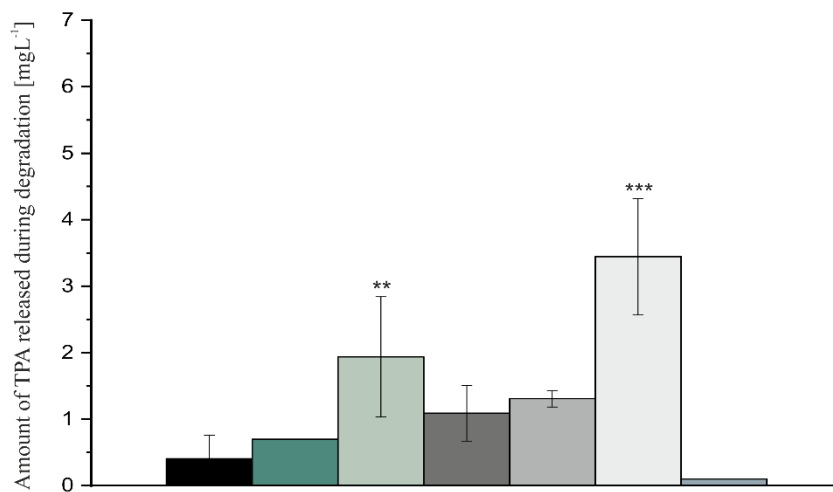
Supplementary Fig. 2

Enzyme stability during degradation process in supernatant (A) and long-term cultures (B).



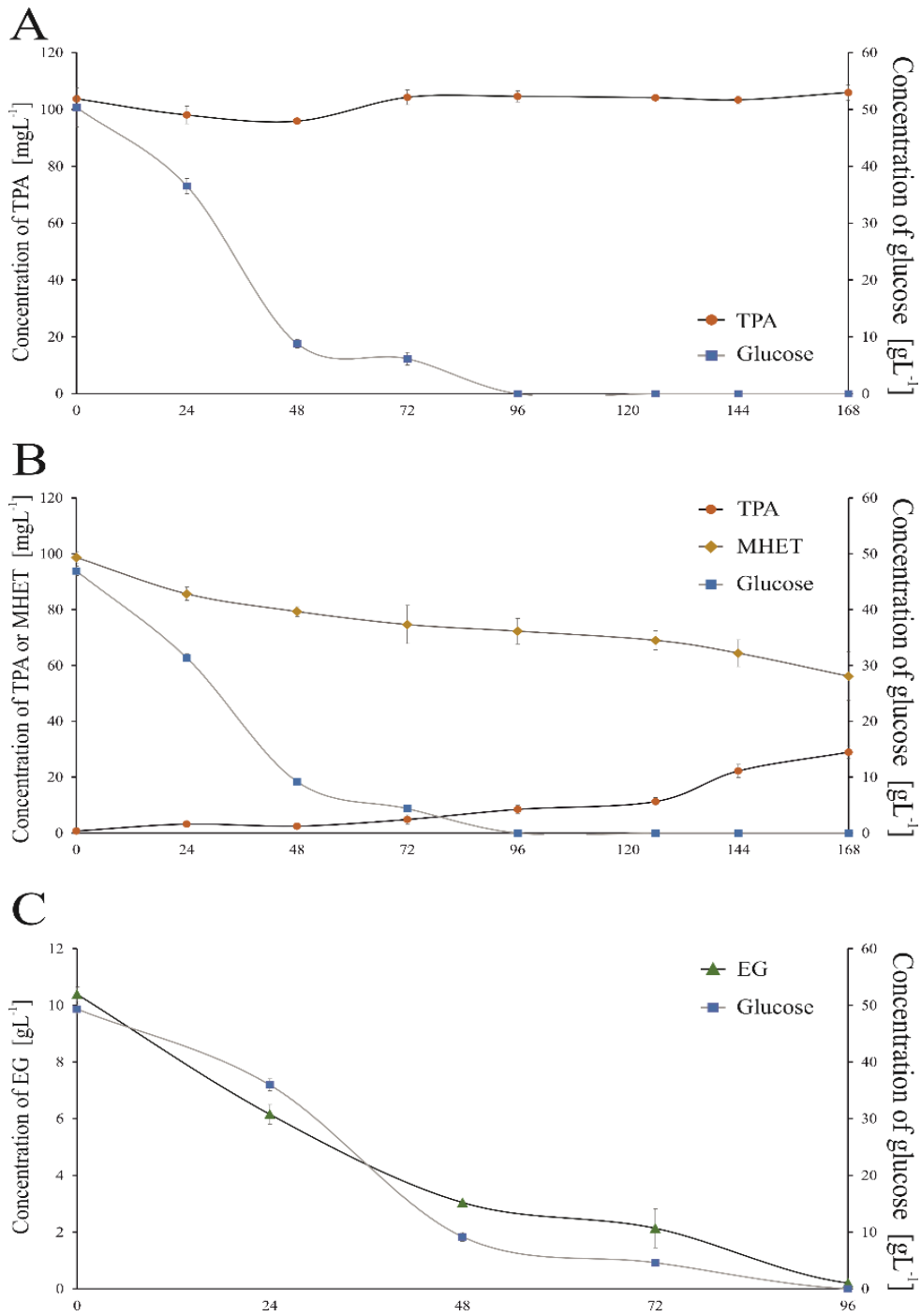
Supplementary Fig. 3

Amount of TPA released during degradation of pre-treated PET films relative to the number of products released when incubated with untreated films (control) with supernatants from AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS (A) and AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS (B).

**A****B**

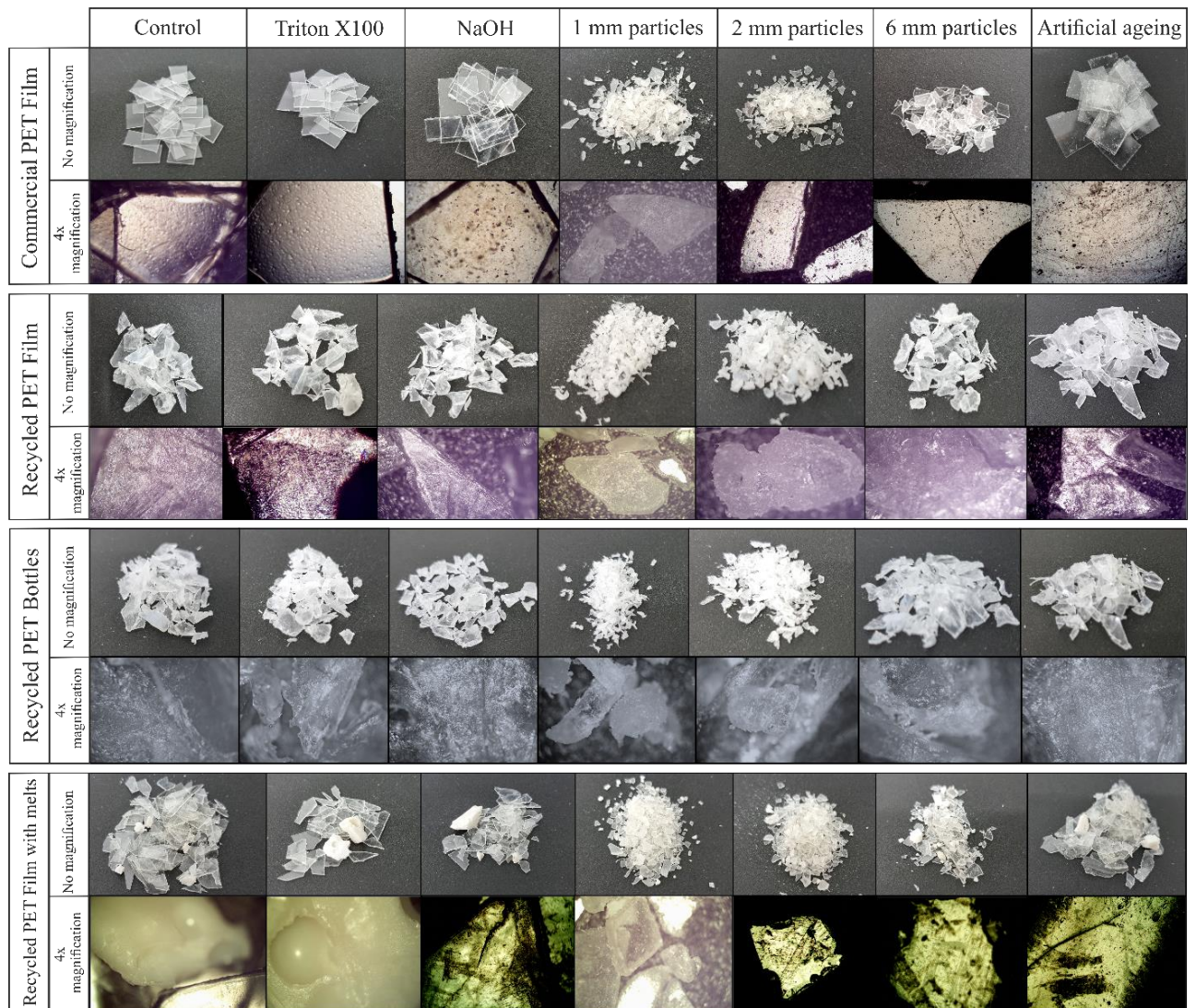
Supplementary Fig. 4

Amount of TPA released during 2-week incubation of pre-treated recycled films (A) and recycled bottles (B) with supernatant of AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS.



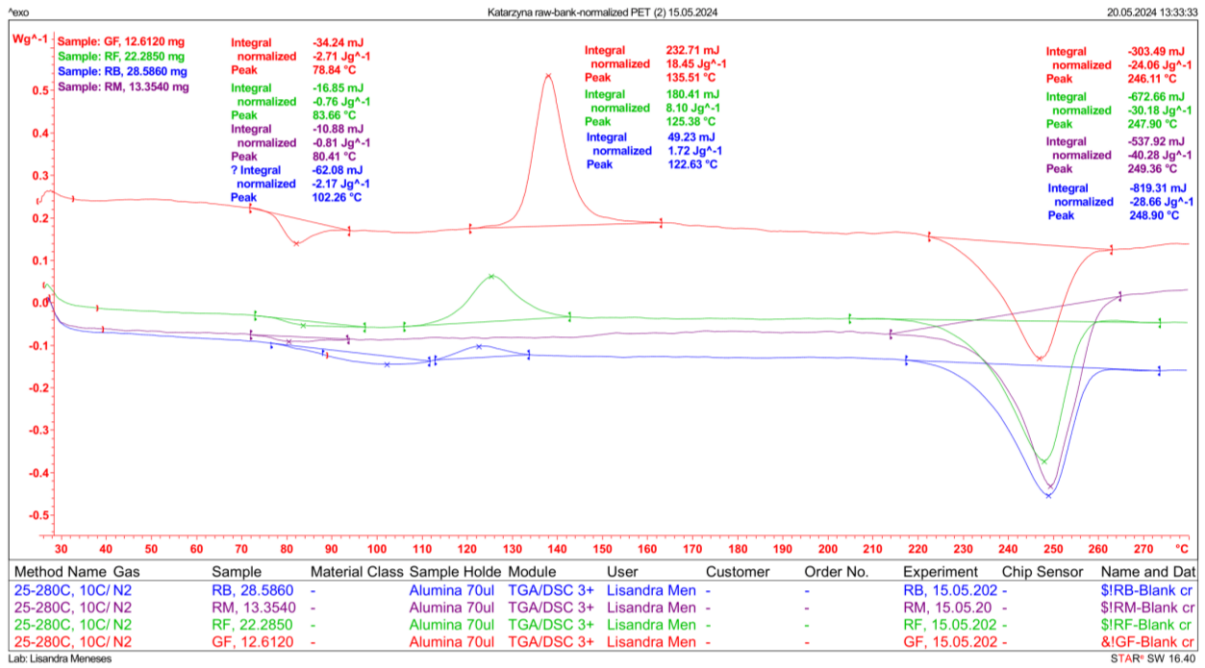
Supplementary Fig. 5

Examination the ability to assimilate TPA (A), EG (C), and MHET hydrolysis (B) by the AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS strain.



Supplementary Fig. 7

**PET** material after pre-treatment. The images show a visual representation of the appearance of the **PET** without magnification and with 4x magnification. The microscope images were taken with a Delta Optical MET-200-TRF metallographic microscope, using the EPI (transmitted light) observation technique. Lens used: 4x, total magnification 40x, microscope camera: DLT-Cam PRO 6.3 MP USB 3.0, software: DLTCamViewer.



Supplementary Fig. 8

TGA-DSC analysis of PET material used in this study.



Supplementary Table 1

Esterase activity of enzymes measured in supernatant after 96 h of cultivation AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS and AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS strains.

	Esterase activity		$K_m$	$v_{max}$
	[U $\mu$ L $^{-1}$ ]	[U $\mu$ g $^{-1}$ ]	[mM]	[ $\mu$ molmin $^{-1}$ mg $^{-1}$ ]
<b>Cutinase</b>	124.9 $\pm$ 0.91	42.72 $\pm$ 0.31	6.48 $\pm$ 0.29	447,89 $\pm$ 35,2
<b>PETase</b>	51.13 $\pm$ 4.2	23.43 $\pm$ 1.92	4.31 $\pm$ 0.64	170,31 $\pm$ 26,3

Supplementary Table 2

Amount of released PET degradation products [mgL $^{-1}$ ] during 28-day culture of AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS and AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS with commercial PET film.

Strain		AJD 2 pAD CUT_FS		AJD 2 pAD PET_IS
Compound		TPA	MHET	TPA
Control	7 days	17,14 $\pm$ 1,04	0 $\pm$ 0	19,19 $\pm$ 3,18
	14 days	30,56 $\pm$ 4,72	0 $\pm$ 0	54,54 $\pm$ 10,56
	21 days	95,95 $\pm$ 1,76	23,76 $\pm$ 1,71	299,57 $\pm$ 9,45
	28 days	151,20 $\pm$ 5,01	19,97 $\pm$ 1,33	496,55 $\pm$ 36,94
NaOH treatment	7 days	N/A	N/A	46,70 $\pm$ 6,29
	14 days	N/A	N/A	87,58 $\pm$ 0,97
	21 days	N/A	N/A	282,69 $\pm$ 7,71
	28 days	N/A	N/A	644,86 $\pm$ 21,28
1 mm particles	7 days	59,07 $\pm$ 2,9	2,66 $\pm$ 0,15	N/A
	14 days	131,31 $\pm$ 5,33	1,49 $\pm$ 0,13	N/A
	21 days	263,38 $\pm$ 4,15	2,81 $\pm$ 1,72	N/A
	28 days	377,77 $\pm$ 21,53	4,37 $\pm$ 0,46	N/A
Artificial ageing process	7 days	35,64 $\pm$ 2,18	9,07 $\pm$ 1,51	163,74 $\pm$ 15,73
	14 days	85,25 $\pm$ 4,16	5,70 $\pm$ 1,16	595,26 $\pm$ 59,25
	21 days	127,56 $\pm$ 6,20	11,50 $\pm$ 2,85	1203,27 $\pm$ 114,25
	28 days	230,11 $\pm$ 9,87	22,94 $\pm$ 2,44	2181,12 $\pm$ 181,24

Supplementary Table 3

Amount of released PET degradation products [ $\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ] during 28-day culture of AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS with pre-treated recycled PET film.

Strain		<b>AJD 2 pAD CUT_FS</b>	
Compound		<b>TPA</b>	<b>MHET</b>
Control	7 days	$3,83 \pm 0,89$	$0 \pm 0$
	14 days	$17,46 \pm 1,27$	$21,90 \pm 2,91$
	21 days	$20,45 \pm 3,80$	$9,88 \pm 2,38$
	28 days	$33,89 \pm 1,42$	$4,11 \pm 0,58$
Triton X100 Treatment	7 days	$0 \pm 0$	$0 \pm 0$
	14 days	$9,17 \pm 2,59$	$1,49 \pm 2,59$
	21 days	$12,74 \pm 2,75$	$24,98 \pm 2,75$
	28 days	$53,32 \pm 1,31$	$24,44 \pm 1,31$
NaOH treatment	7 days	$44,09 \pm 2,81$	$0 \pm 0$
	14 days	$67,02 \pm 10,41$	$4,01 \pm 0,56$
	21 days	$155,49 \pm 2,94$	$23,87 \pm 5,20$
	28 days	$263,13 \pm 20,48$	$3,58 \pm 0,74$
1 mm particles	7 days	$4,05 \pm 2,35$	$33,29 \pm 13,28$
	14 days	$23,81 \pm 7,99$	$30,38 \pm 3,61$
	21 days	$79,55 \pm 2,05$	$29,28 \pm 8,74$
	28 days	$199,65 \pm 16,15$	$25,68 \pm 2,91$

Supplementary Table 4

Amount of released PET degradation products [ $\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ] during 28-day culture of AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS with pre-treated recycled PET bottles.

Strain		<b>AJD 2 pAD CUT_FS</b>	
Compound		<b>TPA</b>	<b>MHET</b>
Control	7 days	18,13 $\pm$ 1,14	0 $\pm$ 0
	14 days	11,12 $\pm$ 0,14	10,76 $\pm$ 5,00
	21 days	21,78 $\pm$ 20,09	5,82 $\pm$ 5,60
	28 days	33,91 $\pm$ 5,12	1,71 $\pm$ 1,51
NaOH treatment	7 days	2,07 $\pm$ 0,26	1,69 $\pm$ 0,23
	14 days	8,10 $\pm$ 0,38	2,21 $\pm$ 1,94
	21 days	16,02 $\pm$ 0,62	3,63 $\pm$ 3,19
	28 days	29,26 $\pm$ 3,48	3,72 $\pm$ 0,31
1 mm particles	7 days	27,60 $\pm$ 1,96	22,86 $\pm$ 1,85
	14 days	116,52 $\pm$ 3,50	44,02 $\pm$ 4,66
	21 days	121,04 $\pm$ 8,38	42,53 $\pm$ 2,72
	28 days	588,41 $\pm$ 71,23	37,39 $\pm$ 7,99
2 mm particles	7 days	23,19 $\pm$ 4,38	2,80 $\pm$ 0,13
	14 days	104,15 $\pm$ 1,76	7,00 $\pm$ 0,52
	21 days	172,63 $\pm$ 17,52	117,04 $\pm$ 3,91
	28 days	171,58 $\pm$ 3,33	127,71 $\pm$ 12,26
6 mm particles	7 days	15,509 $\pm$ 1,40	2,54 $\pm$ 0,06
	14 days	116,83 $\pm$ 5,38	4,89 $\pm$ 0,67
	21 days	159,30 $\pm$ 2,53	82,61 $\pm$ 27,24
	28 days	173,63 $\pm$ 9,35	120,47 $\pm$ 6,36
Artificial ageing process	7 days	0 $\pm$ 0	0 $\pm$ 0
	14 days	5,92 $\pm$ 0,45	41,95 $\pm$ 1,27
	21 days	16,54 $\pm$ 0,66	21,17 $\pm$ 3,26
	28 days	24,00 $\pm$ 2,57	42,23 $\pm$ 6,46

Supplementary Table 5

Amount of released PET degradation products [ $\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ] during 28-day culture of AJD 2 pAD CUT\_FS and AJD 2 pAD PET\_IS with pre-treated recycled PET films with melts.

Strain		AJD 2 pAD CUT_FS		AJD 2 pAD PET_IS
Compound		TPA	MHET	TPA
Control	7 days	$2,62 \pm 0,28$	$3,45 \pm 0,42$	$14,40 \pm 0,39$
	14 days	$8,79 \pm 3,44$	$7,04 \pm 1,54$	$17,99 \pm 1,26$
	21 days	$16,23 \pm 1,36$	$1,72 \pm 2,12$	$23,25 \pm 5,30$
	28 days	$18,39 \pm 3,26$	$0,90 \pm 0,48$	$26,12 \pm 0,23$
Triton X100 Treatment	7 days	$6,02 \pm 0,34$	$2,65 \pm 0,17$	N/A
	14 days	$7,49 \pm 1,43$	$3,80 \pm 3,30$	N/A
	21 days	$28,37 \pm 0,82$	$5,49 \pm 0,40$	N/A
	28 days	$43,85 \pm 0,60$	$8,30 \pm 2,20$	N/A
NaOH treatment	7 days	$2,20 \pm 0,14$	$2,17 \pm 1,88$	$19,01 \pm 1,91$
	14 days	$13,01 \pm 0,36$	$4,72 \pm 4,27$	$36,14 \pm 3,08$
	21 days	$17,60 \pm 0,93$	$6,74 \pm 1,23$	$84,45 \pm 2,07$
	28 days	$25,73 \pm 1,22$	$8,30 \pm 2,25$	$133,42 \pm 8,06$
1 mm particles	7 days	$2,62 \pm 0,28$	$3,45 \pm 0,423$	N/A
	14 days	$67,83 \pm 4,68$	$51,05 \pm 11,55$	N/A
	21 days	$69,21 \pm 1,06$	$4,12 \pm 1,57$	N/A
	28 days	$99,39 \pm 2,76$	$43,18 \pm 2,37$	N/A
2 mm particles	7 days	$15,55 \pm 1,48$	$4,85 \pm 0,18$	N/A
	14 days	$36,09 \pm 1,03$	$8,21 \pm 0,61$	N/A
	21 days	$45,95 \pm 2,12$	$5,02 \pm 1,22$	N/A
	28 days	$60,19 \pm 2,1$	$4,31 \pm 2,2$	N/A
6 mm particles	7 days	$18,56 \pm 1,30$	$4,38 \pm 0,32$	N/A
	14 days	$37,33 \pm 1,71$	$6,32 \pm 5,70$	N/A
	21 days	$46,94 \pm 5,42$	$2,06 \pm 1,57$	N/A
	28 days	$62,19 \pm 4,67$	$2,26 \pm 0,58$	N/A
Artificial ageing process	7 days	$3,91 \pm 0,14$	$0 \pm 0$	$0 \pm 0$
	14 days	$18,41 \pm 0,21$	$13,41 \pm 1,40$	$53,35 \pm 0,67$
	21 days	$34,54 \pm 1,45$	$2,94 \pm 0,72$	$69,97 \pm 3,05$
	28 days	$46,22 \pm 3,39$	$4,21 \pm 1,32$	$171,69 \pm 12,11$