

## プロトン化した青色 $\beta$ -カロテンの粘土複合体中での劣化機構

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Degradation Mechanism of Protonated Blue  $\beta$ -Carotene Incorporated in Clay (<sup>1</sup>Shizuoka University, <sup>2</sup>Tokyo University of technology) ○Chinami Amano<sup>1</sup>, Masashi Shibata<sup>2</sup>, Yoshiumi Kohno<sup>1</sup>, Ryo Watanabe<sup>1</sup>, Choji Fukuhara<sup>1</sup>

Naturally occurring  $\beta$ -carotene (BC) changes its color from original yellow to blue by the interaction with acids. The blue BC is stabilized by the adsorption on clays. However, the reason for this stabilization is not fully clarified yet. In this study, the degradation mechanism of the blue BC was targeted. BC was mixed with trifluoroacetic acid in dichloromethane to be protonated, and blue BC solution was obtained. Clays were added to this solution, and the blue BC/clay complex was prepared. Montmorillonite (KF) and non-swelling mica (M) were used as clays. The stability of these two samples was investigated in the presence and absence of oxygen during visible light irradiation. The stability was evaluated from the retention ratio of the absorption ( $A/A_0 \times 100$ ) after irradiation.

Fig. 1 shows the retention ratio of the absorption of each sample during irradiation for 3 h with and without oxygen. The stability of the blue BC was higher under the condition without oxygen than that with the oxygen. In addition, the blue BC/KF was more stable than the blue BC/M. The blue BC would be intercalated into the cation exchangeable KF layer, which might suppress the contact with oxygen and improve stability. From these, it was concluded that blue BC was degraded by oxidation reaction, as well as non-protonated BC.

**Keywords :**  $\beta$ -carotene; protonation; degradation mechanism; clay; hybrid material

天然色素である  $\beta$ -カロテン(BC)は、酸との作用により本来の黄色から青色に変化する。青色 BC は粘土との複合化により安定化するが、その詳細な理由は分かっていない。そこで本研究では青色 BC の劣化機構を検討した。ジクロロメタン中で BC をトリフルオロ酢酸によりプロトン化した青色 BC 溶液を調製した。この溶液に粘土を加え、攪拌・静置・ろ過を経て青色 BC/粘土複合体とした。粘土としてモンモリロナイト(KF)と非膨潤性マイカ(M)を用いた。複合体に可視光を照射した際の酸素の有無による光安定性の違いを調査した。安定性は最大吸収波長における吸光度保持率 ( $A/A_0 \times 100$ ) から評価した。

Fig. 1 に酸素の有無が異なる条件下で可視光を 3 時間照射した際の吸光度保持率を示す。KF と M の複合体のどちらも、酸素非存在下の方が安定であった。また KF との複合体は酸素存在下でも比較的安定であった。KF はカチオン交換能を有するため、カチオン交換により青色 BC が粘土層間に導入され、酸素との接触が抑制されたためと考えた。以上より青色 BC はプロトン化しない BC と同様、酸化反応で退色すると分かった。

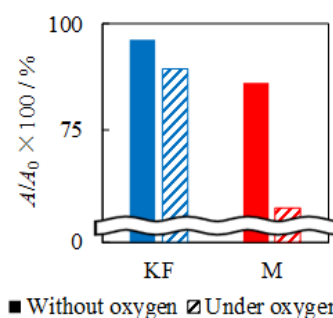


Fig. 1 Stability of blue BC incorporated in clay against visible irradiation.