

Showcasing research by Dr Jonathan Wagner, Dr Swathi Mukundan and Professor Sandra Dann *et al.* from Loughborough University, UK, and independent researcher Dr Fabio Santomauro, Spain.

Pulcherrimin: a bio-derived iron chelate catalyst for base-free oxidation of 5-hydroxymethylfurfural to furandicarboxylic acid

Pulcherrimin, a bio-mineral derived from yeast culture of Metchnikowia pulcherrima, was successfully applied to the selective base-free oxidation of 5-HMF into FDCA. The catalyst could be synthesised as part of a biorefinery approach and presents a commercially viable, environmentally friendly alternative to conventional noble metal catalysts.

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