

Table S1. Primers and PCR conditions used in this study.

Gene	Primer	Sequence (5'-3')	PCR cycling conditions
16S rRNA	fD1 rD1	AGAGTTTGATCCTGGCTCTCAG AAGGAGGTGATCCAGCC	3'30" 95 °C, 30 x (1'10", 94 °C; 40", 56 °C; 2'10", 72 °C), 6' 20" 72°C
<i>glnII</i>	glnII12F glnII689R	YAAGCTCGAGTACATYTGGCT TGCATGCCSGAGCCGTTCCA	5' 95 °C, 30x (45" 94 °C, 1',58 °C, 1'30", 74 °C), 1' 74 °C.
<i>recA</i>	recA63F recA555R	ATCGAGCGGTCGTTCGGCAAGGG CGRATCTGGTTGATGAAGATCACCAT	2' 95 °C, 35x (45" 94 °C, 1' 50 °C, 1'30" 74 °C), 1' 74 °C.
<i>nodC</i>	nodCF nodCI	AYGTHGTYGAYGACGGTTC CGYGACAGCCANTCKCTATTG	3' 95 °C, 35x (1' 94 °C, 1' 55 °C, 2' 72 °C) 3' 72 °C