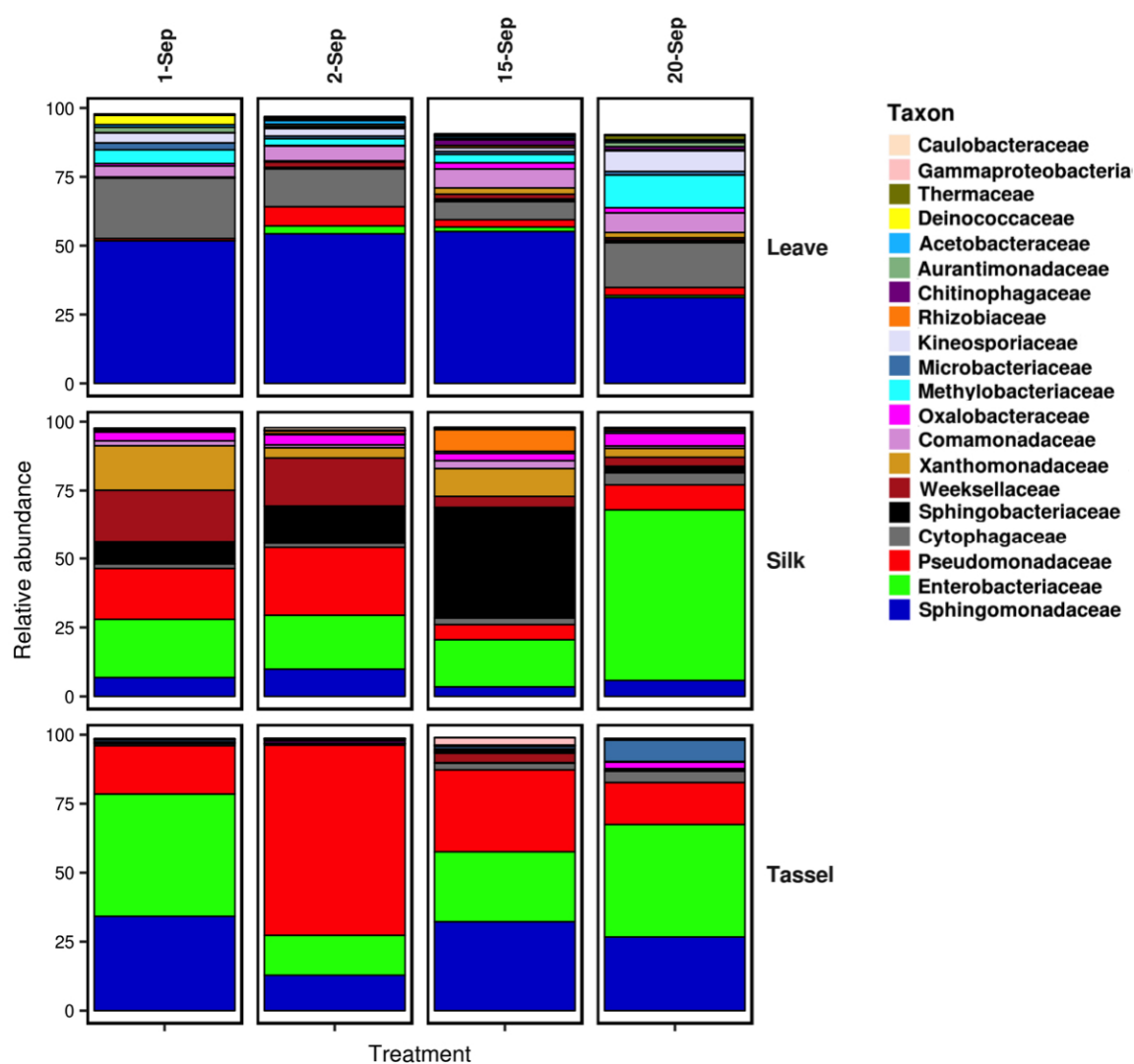


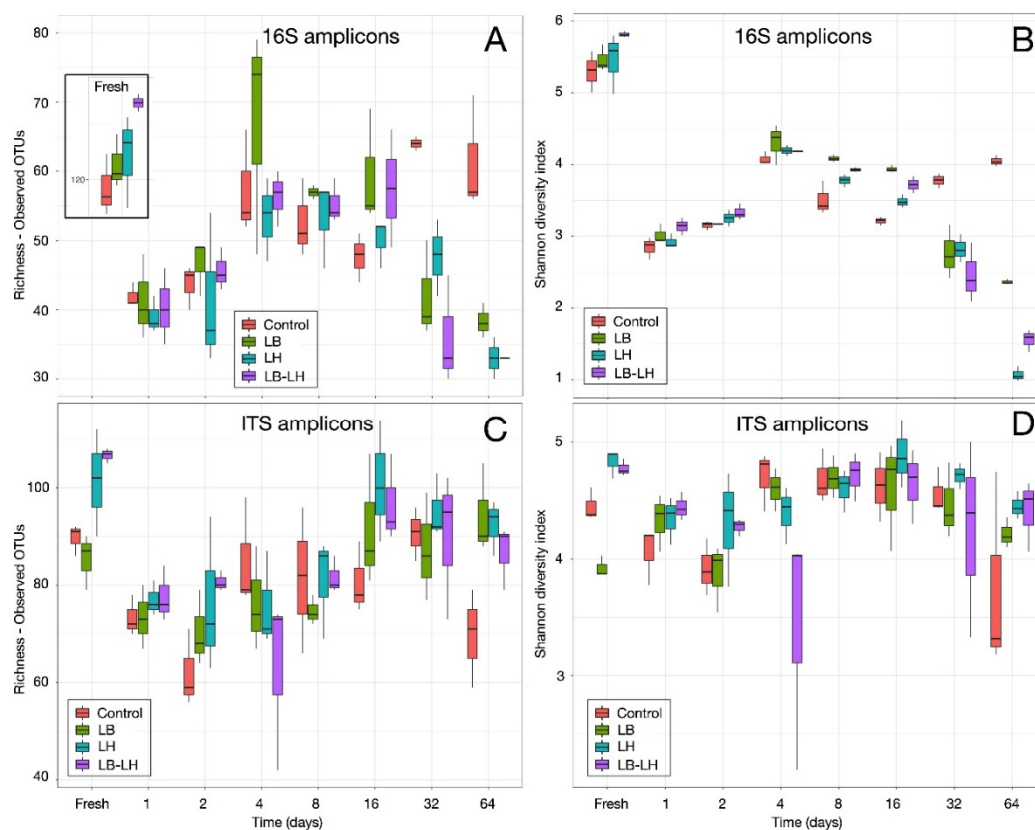
Supplementary Materials



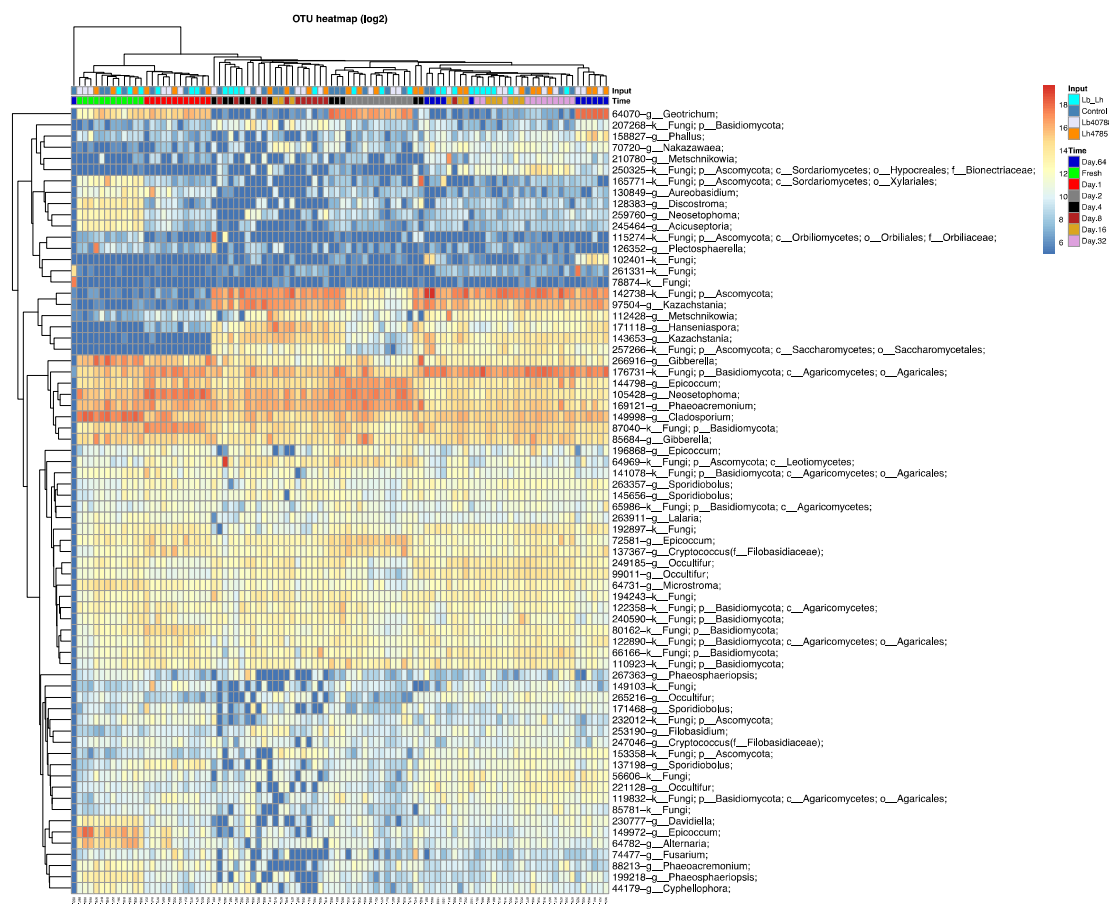
**Figure S1.** 16S Amplicon metasequencing diversity profile of corn at four sampling periods in the month preceding harvest. Colour coding of relative abundance data is at the family level. The DNA of individual samples of leaves, silk plus a few terminal kernels, and tassels extracted and sequenced individually. Main weather details: it rained on the day preceding 1-Sept. sampling; all the other days preceding sampling were sunny.



**Figure S2.** Heatmap and cladogram of the samples for the 16S amplicon metasequencing (V4 region) data from corn silages inoculated with four inoculation treatments and eight fermentation periods, ranging from fresh to 64 days of ensiling. Color scale represents the log<sub>2</sub> transformation of the CPM (count per million reads).



**Figure S3.** Changes in alpha diversity parameters, Shannon Index and Observed Species, in relation to time of fermentation for the 16S and the ITS amplicons for the four treatments.



**Figure S4.** Heatmap and cladogram of the samples for the ITS amplicon metasequencing data from corn silages inoculated with four inoculation treatments and eight fermentation periods, ranging from fresh to 64 days of ensiling. Color scale represents the log<sub>2</sub> transformation of the CPM (count per million reads).

**Table S1.** Table identifying the three main OTUs that increased and the three that decreased between inoculation versus Control (LB-LH over Control, LB over Control, and LH over Control) of whole plant corn silage. Taxonomic identification was performed using the contrast results (EdgeR package) following a BLASTn search.

Table S1. Taxonomic identification (BLASTn against NCBI GenBank database) of the three top OTU showing highest increase and highest decrease following results by a contrast analysis of the bacteria population after inoculation with LB, LH, or LB-LH against the control treatment, by individual opening period.

Day(s)	Treatments		LB over control		LH over control	
	LB-LH over control	Higher in control	Higher in control	Higher with inoculation	Higher in control	Higher with inoculation
1	None	LHLD LF (4.20) <sup>1</sup>	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-2.93) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-2.89) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (-2.81)	Uncultured bacterium (4.67)	None	LHLD LF (4.00)
2	None	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (5.64) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.04) LHLD LF (3.47)	<i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-2.95) <i>Lactobacillus sharpaeus</i> (-2.83) <i>Lactobacillus parabravis</i> (-2.65)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (3.92) LHLD LF (1.62)	<i>Leucomostoc fallax</i> (-2.65)	LHLD LF (3.22) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (3.09)
4	<i>Leucomostoc pseudomacenteroides</i> (-4.78) <sup>1</sup> <i>Pediococcus acidilactici</i> (-4.61) <sup>2</sup> <i>Lactobacillus (uncultured)</i> (-4.23)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.82) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.08) <i>Flavobacterium sp.</i> (3.39)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.58) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (3.95) <i>Flavobacterium plicatophatum</i> (3.93)		Uncultured <i>Lactobacillus</i> (-4.02) <i>Pediococcus acidilactici</i> (-3.88) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (3.73)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.85) <i>Luteibacter rhotovicensis</i> (4.50) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (3.73)
8	<i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-2.38) <i>Burkholderia gladioli</i> (-2.30) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-1.69)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (5.08) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.51) Uncultured bacterium (2.89)	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-3.39) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-3.03) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-2.52)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.96) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.42) <i>Hafnia sp.</i> (1.94)	None	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.92) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.57) LHLD LF (2.80)
16	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-2.14)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (5.64) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (4.04) LHLD LF (3.47)	<i>Spiromonas radiotolerans</i> (-3.95) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-2.30) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (-2.15)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (7.49) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.58) LHLD LF (3.52)	None	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.73) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.07) LHLD LF (3.78)
32	<i>Siphonobacter sp.</i> (-4.23) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-4.16) <i>Xanthobacter autotrophicus</i> (-3.99)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (7.52) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (5.84) LHLD LF (5.41)	<i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-3.37) <i>Spiromonas radiotolerans</i> (-2.65) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-1.94)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (8.45) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.80) LHLD LF (6.25)	<i>Hymenobacter sp.</i> (-3.39) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (-2.97) <i>Spiromonas roseiflora</i> (-2.54)	<i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.67) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (6.43) LHLD LF (6.32)
64	<i>Bacillus pumilus</i> (-8.69) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-5.56) <i>Leucomostoc lactis</i> (-5.32)	LHLD LF (2.73) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (2.12) <i>Lactobacillus buchneri</i> (1.97)	<i>Bacillus pumilus</i> (-8.69) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-5.51) <i>Leucomostoc lactis</i> (-5.31)	<i>Lactobacillus nigelriensis</i> (5.73) <i>Pediococcus dimorphus</i> (3.22) <i>Lactobacillus harbinensis</i> (3.16)		<i>Bacillus pumilus</i> (-8.69) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-5.85) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (3.56)

1. Values in parenthesis represent the logFC (fold change) generated by the contrast analysis performed using the EdgeR package. Negative numbers represent OTU more present in the control samples.

2. Taxonomic identification represents the main identify level of the top 10 to 20 results of the BLASTn search.

3. LHLD LF OTU were identical between *Lactobacillus hilgardii*, *Lactobacillus diolivorans*, and *Lactobacillus faraginis* sequences.

**Table S2.** Table identifying the four main OTUs that increased and the four that decreased between fermentation periods in the Control, LB, LH, and LB-LH treatments of whole plant corn silage. Taxonomic identification was performed using the contrast results (EdgeR package) following a BLASTn search. In addition to the RDP classifier (methods), OTU taxonomy was further characterized by BLASTing them against NCBI GenBank general nucleotide collection database (nr/nt). Considering the small size of individual OTU, taxonomic identification was good with identical hits showing 100% identity with most of the top 20 hits.

Table S2. Taxonomic identification (BLASTn against NCBI GenBank database) of the four top OTU showing highest increase and highest decrease following results by a contrast analysis of the bacteria population for the four treatments (Control, LB, LH, and combo LB-LH) compared between one opening period and the previous one.

DAY	LB-LH		LB	
	Decrease	Increase	Decrease	Increase
1 over fresh	<i>Acinetobacter baylyi</i> (-4.37) <sup>1</sup> <i>Chryseobacterium</i> sp. (-4.19) <i>Herbaspirillum chlorophenoicum</i> (-3.90) <i>Luteibacter rhizovicinus</i> (-3.75)	<i>Weissella confusa</i> <sup>2</sup> (10.83) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (9.40) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (8.23) <i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> (7.88)	<i>Hymenobacter</i> sp. (-7.09) <i>Spirosoma radiotolerans</i> (-6.50) <i>Spingomonas</i> sp. (-6.50) <i>Brevundimonas</i> sp. (-6.40)	<i>Weissella confusa</i> (10.91) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (8.72) <i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> (7.00) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (6.63)
2 over 1	<i>Sphingobacterium</i> sp. (-1.90) <i>Chryseobacterium</i> (-1.74) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (-1.68)	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (4.74) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (3.64) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (3.34) LH LD LF <sup>3</sup> (3.04)	<i>Sphingobacteria</i> (uncultured) (-5.15)	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (5.48) LH LD LF (5.01) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (4.55) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (2.98)
4 over 2	<i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-4.09) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.80) Uncultured <i>Lactobacillus</i> (-3.53) <i>Weissella cibaria</i> (-3.49)	Uncultured ( <i>Sphingobacterium</i> ) (5.31) <i>Flavobacterium johnsoniae</i> (5.02) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (4.06) <i>Lactobacillus crustorum</i>	<i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.50) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.15) <i>Weissella</i> sp. (-3.05) <i>Weissella cibaria</i> (-2.97)	<i>Xanthomonas</i> sp. (5.30) <i>Pseudoxanthomonas mexicana</i> (5.29) <i>Flavobacterium johnsoniae</i> (5.27) <i>Sodalis</i> sp. (4.90)
8 over 4	<i>Xanthomonas</i> sp. (-3.50) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-3.24) <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. (-2.19) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (-2.04)	None	<i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-3.16) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-2.61)	None
16 over 8	<i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-2.70) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (-2.65) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (-2.12) <i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-2.03)	<i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (1.74)	None	None
32 over 16	<i>Hafnia alvei</i> (-2.98) <i>Kluyvera georgiana</i> (-2.55) <i>Variovorax</i> sp. (-2.26) <i>Enterobacter</i> sp. (-2.25)	LH LD LF (2.20) Uncultured (1.79) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (1.56)	None	<i>Lactobacillus acetotolerans</i> (7.02) LH LD LF (3.15) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (2.45)
64 over 32	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-3.08) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-2.61) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (-2.43) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-2.26)	<i>Lactobacillus acetotolerans</i> (9.52) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (4.73) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (3.51) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (3.22)	<i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-3.59) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.02) <i>Leuconostoc</i> sp. (-3.02) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-2.95)	<i>Lactobacillus ingluvieta</i> (5.74) <i>Lactobacillus acetotolerans</i> (4.90) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (4.85) <i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (4.61)

DAY	LH		CONTROL	
	Decrease	Increase	Decrease	Increase
1 over fresh	<i>Luteibacter rhizovicinus</i> (-9.29) <i>Flavobacterium</i> sp. (-8.97) <i>Dyadobacter</i> sp. (-8.17) <i>Sphingobacterium</i> sp. (-7.54)	<i>Weissella confusa</i> (10.37) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (9.23) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (8.32) <i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> (7.30)	<i>Flavobacterium akiatvivens</i> (-6.88) <i>Chryseobacterium</i> sp. (-5.59) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-5.24) <i>Flavobacterium psychrophilum</i> (-5.20)	<i>Weissella confusa</i> (11.49) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (9.97) <i>Leuconostoc mesenteroides</i> (8.73) <i>Pediococcus pentosaceus</i> (8.50)
2 over 1	None	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (5.62) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (3.56) LH LD LF (2.98) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (2.53)	<i>Siphonobacter</i> sp. (-3.40) <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i> (-2.81)	<i>Lactobacillus brevis</i> (5.14) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (4.13) LH LD LF (3.73) <i>Lactobacillus crustorum</i> (3.54)
4 over 2	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-3.54) <i>Leuconostoc</i> sp. (-3.18) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.11) <i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-3.08)	<i>Luteibacter rhizovicinus</i> (6.02) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (4.65) <i>Spingomonas faeni</i> (4.64) <i>Duganeilla</i> sp. (3.92)	None	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (4.06) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (3.94) <i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (3.40) Uncultured <i>Lactobacillus</i> (3.35)
8 over 4	<i>Xanthomonas</i> sp. (-3.26) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-2.98) <i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-1.91)	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (1.67)	<i>Leuconostoc pseudomesenteroides</i> (-5.12) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (-5.05) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-3.81) <i>Weissella confusa</i> (-3.72)	<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (1.96) <i>Lactobacillus sharpeae</i> (1.91)
16 over 8	<i>Lysobacter firmicutimachus</i> (-3.54) <i>Lactococcus lactis</i> (-3.41) <i>Lactobacillus sharpeae</i> (-3.18) <i>Herbaspirillum chlorophenoicum</i> (-3.11)	None	None	None
32 over 16	None	Uncultured bacterium (3.14) LH LD LF (2.96) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (2.45) <i>Leuconostoc citreum</i> (2.38)	<i>Lactobacillus sharpeae</i> (-2.66)	None
64 over 32	<i>Lactobacillus pentosiphilus</i> (-3.98) <i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> (-3.89) Uncultured <i>Lactobacillus</i> (-3.58) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (-3.45)	<i>Lactobacillus acetotolerans</i> (8.98) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (4.25)	None	<i>Lactobacillus acetotolerans</i> (10.51) <i>Bacillus aerius</i> (8.27) <i>Lactobacillus buchmeri</i> (5.98) <i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i> (5.20)

1. Values in parenthesis represent the logFC (Fold Change) generated by the contrast analysis performed using the EdgeR package of R. Negative numbers represent OTU more present in the previous opening.

2. Taxonomic identification represents the main identity level observed in the top 10 to 20 results of the BLASTn search.

3. LH LD LF OTU provided similar results between *Lactobacillus hilgardii*, *Lactobacillus diloivorans*, and *Lactobacillus farraginis* sequences in the database.

