

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Multi-omics characterization of host-derived *Bacillus* spp. probiotics for improved growth performance in poultry

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Supplementary Methods

In vitro microbial inhibition assay

The assays were modified from a protocol described in (1) and performed in duplicate. Briefly, 10 µl of *Bacillus* freezer stock was inoculated into 2 mL of 0.5x LB in a 15 mL round bottom shaker tube. The cultures were incubated at 37°C for 48 hours while shaking at 200 rpm. For APEC strains and *S. Typhimurium*, 50 µl of freezer stock was inoculated into 5 mL of LB in a 15 mL round bottom shaker tube. The cultures were incubated at 37°C overnight while shaking at 200 rpm. Once pathogens had grown overnight in liquid culture, 1.0×10^5 cfu/ml of the overnight culture were inoculated into freshly prepared LB soft agar (0.8% w/v) that was cooled in a water bath set to 45°C after autoclave sterilization. 5 mL of the molten agar was aliquoted into each well of a 6-well cell culture plate (2 wells per *Bacillus* strain plus the negative control). The soft agar was solidified and air-dried for 3-4 hours. Onto this agar, 5 µl of 48-hour *Bacillus* culture were applied to the center of each well. The plates were inverted and allowed to incubate overnight at 37°C for 24 hours and zones of inhibition were observed and recorded.

For *Clostridium perfringens* screening, 5 mL of molten LB agar (1.5%, w/v) were aliquoted into each well of a 6-well cell culture plate and allowed to solidify overnight. Then 5 µl of 48-hour *Bacillus* culture were spotted onto the center of each well. The plates were inverted and allowed to incubate overnight aerobically at 37°C. A colony of *Clostridium perfringens* NAH 1314-JP1011 was inoculated in liquid BYC broth and incubated overnight at 39°C in the anaerobic chamber. Freshly prepared BYC soft agar (0.8%, w/v) was autoclaved and allowed to cool in a water bath set to 45°C. Once cooled, the overnight *C. perfringens* culture was inoculated into molten soft agar at 1.0×10^5 cfu/ml and mixed on a stir plate. 5 mL of the molten agar was aliquoted on top of each well of the 6-well cell culture plates containing *Bacillus* spots. As a negative control, *C. perfringens*-containing molten agar was poured onto LB agar without *Bacillus*. Once solidified, plates were inverted and allowed to incubate anaerobically overnight at 39°C for 24 hours. Then, zones of inhibition were observed and recorded.

Enzyme activities

β-mannanase assay was adapted from a protocol as described by Cleary, B., et. al. (2). Assays for amylase and protease followed protocols in (1).

For testing β-mannanase activity, *Bacillus* strains were grown in 5 milliliters of LB medium in a 15 mL culture tube overnight at 37°C while shaking at 200 rpm. Then 5 µl of 24 hour *Bacillus* culture were spotted in duplicate onto the center of an LB agar plate containing 100 mM CaCl₂. The agar plates were incubated overnight at 37°C. Fresh soft agar containing Azo-carob Galactomannan (0.5%, w/v), agar (0.7%, w/v), dissolved in 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.0 buffer was autoclaved and allowed to cool in a water bath set to 45°C. Once cooled, the soft agar substrate was overlayed on to agar plates containing *Bacillus* colonies until each colony was surrounded by substrate. The plates were incubated overnight at 37°C and allowed to incubate for 48 hours. The zone of clearance due to β-mannanase activity could be directly visualized and recorded.

For the amylase assay, agar plates containing the following ingredients were used (entity, g/L): Tryptone, 10, Soluble starch, 3, KH₂PO₄, 5, Yeast extract, 10, Noble Agar, 15. An overnight culture of *Bacillus* isolates in 0.5x LB was used as an inoculum. The *Bacillus* culture was spotted

onto the above plate containing soluble starch and the inoculated plates were incubated at 37°C for 48 hours. The zone of clearance due to amylase activity was visualized by flooding the surface of the plates with 5 mL of Gram's iodine solution.

For testing protease activity, agar plates containing the following ingredients were used (entity, g/L): skim milk, 25, noble agar, 25. An overnight culture of *Bacillus* isolates in 0.5x LB was used as inoculum. The *Bacillus* culture was spotted onto the above plate containing soluble starch and the inoculated plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. The zone of clearance due to protease activity could be directly visualized.

Cytotoxicity Assay

Bacillus spp. strains were grown in 5 mL Brain Heart Infusion (BHI) liquid medium at 30°C overnight. This overnight culture served as an inoculum for 5 mL fresh LB, the inoculated medium was then incubated at 30°C for 6 hours without shaking. The expected cell density was at least 10⁸ CFU/mL. The culture was then centrifuged at 1,700 xg for 1 hour to generate cell-free culture supernatant.

200 µL serum-free medium were added to the 100% confluent Vero cells grown on 96-well plates generated following the protocol described in Materials and Methods. The cells were then exposed to 100 µL of cell-free culture supernatant of *Bacillus* spp. and the mixture was incubated inside a CO₂ incubator (5% v/v headspace of CO₂, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA) at 37 °C for 3 hour. The corresponding cell-free culture supernatant was used in the control wells. *B. cereus* and *B. licheniformis* were used as positive and negative controls, respectively, and 0.1% Triton-X, 100 µL was used as a positive cytotoxicity control. The assay was performed in three technical replicates with three biological replicates.

At the end of the incubation period, culture supernatants were collected by centrifugation at 300 xg for 5 min. Culture supernatants from technical replicate wells were combined. Four micro liters of the culture supernatant were used for a lactate dehydrogenase assay (Sigma Aldrich, St. Louis, MO) with a total volume of 100 µL, following the protocol as described in (3). The reaction was monitored at an absorbance of 450 nm at 37°C for 10 minutes measuring the generation of NADH from NAD⁺ as products from lactate dehydrogenase reaction. The percent cytotoxicity level was calculated by the following formula.

$$\% \text{ Cytotoxicity} = \frac{(A_{460\text{nm}} \text{ sample} - A_{460\text{nm}} \text{ media control})}{(A_{460\text{nm}} \text{ Triton X} - A_{460\text{nm}} \text{ media control})}$$

The A_{450nm} value is an average of three biological replicates. A cytotoxicity percentage value higher than 20 was considered cytotoxic. The assays were repeated if cytotoxicity percentage of *B. cereus*, a positive control, was less than 40 or that of *B. licheniformis*, a negative control, was higher than 20.

Global untargeted metabolomic analysis

Metabolite analysis was performed at Metabolon, Inc. utilizing non-targeted UPLC-MS/MS approach employing a Waters ACQUITY ultra-performance liquid chromatography (Waters, Milford, MA) and a Q-Exactive high resolution/accurate mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA) interfaced with a heated electrospray ionization (HESI-II) source and Orbitrap mass analyzer operated at 35,000 mass resolution. The samples were dried, reconstituted and aliquoted into four samples for the following analyses, a) Analysis of hydrophilic compounds employing acidic positive ion conditions with a C18 column (Waters UPLC BEH C18-2.1x100 mm, 1.7 μ m) using water and methanol, containing 0.05% perfluoro pentanoic acid (PFPA) and 0.1% formic acid (FA), b) Analysis of more hydrophobic compounds employing a similar system as mentioned above except the mobile phase used was methanol, acetonitrile, water, 0.05% PFPA and 0.01% FA and was operated at an overall organic content. c) Analysis of basic negative ion employing a C18 column with methanol and water as mobile phase that contained 6.5 mM Ammonium Bicarbonate at pH 8. d) negative ionization following elution from a HILIC column (Waters UPLC BEH Amide 2.1x150 mm, 1.7 μ m) using a gradient consisting of water and acetonitrile with 10mM Ammonium Formate, pH 10.8. The MS analysis covered approximately 70-1000 m/z.

Metabolic compounds were identified by comparison to the Metabolon libraries of purified standards and recurrent unknown metabolites. The identification was based on retention index within a narrow RI window of the proposed identification, accurate mass match to the library $\pm$ 10 ppm, and the MS/MS forward and reverse scores.

Data from cell pellets and culture supernatants were analyzed separately. Raw intensity values were re-scaled for each identified metabolite by dividing them by the median intensity across samples. Missing values for a given metabolite and sample were imputed by assigning the minimum value for the metabolite across samples. The scaled and imputed data were Log₁₀ transformed for subsequent analyses. Principal component analysis (PCA) was used to analyze the similarity of metabolic profiles between samples. For supernatant samples, secreted metabolites were identified by comparing the scaled and imputed intensities to the respective metabolites in media controls. A 1.5-fold increase in scaled intensities over media was used to define metabolites secreted. A similar 1.5-fold increase between an individual strain and the remaining 2 strains, or between strain consortia and the corresponding individual strains, was used to define uniquely secreted metabolites.

REFERENCES

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