

**S3 Table.** Composition and preparation of minimal media used in this study.

<b>M9 medium</b> (Sambrook and Russell, 2001)		<b>M9<sup>+</sup> medium</b> (Panke <i>et al.</i> , 1999)		<b>Riesenberg (RB) medium</b> (Riesenberg <i>et al.</i> , 1991)	
<b>Component</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Concentration</b>
Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	8.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	25.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	13.3 g L <sup>-1</sup>
KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	3.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	9.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	4.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>
NaCl	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	NaCl	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	Citric acid	1.7 g L <sup>-1</sup>
NH <sub>4</sub> Cl	1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> Cl	1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	-	-
Main medium components were dissolved in MilliQ water and pH was adjusted to 7.2 using NaOH (10 M). After sterilization, the medium was supplemented with the following ingredients:		Main medium components were dissolved in MilliQ water and pH was adjusted to 7.2 using NaOH (10 M). After sterilization, the medium was supplemented with the following ingredients:		Main medium components were dissolved in MilliQ water and pH was adjusted to 6.8 using 25% ammonia and then further increased to 7.2 by 10 M NaOH. After sterilization, the medium was supplemented with the following ingredients:	
<b>Supplement</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Supplement</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Supplement</b>	<b>Concentration</b>
MgSO <sub>4</sub>	2 mM	MgSO <sub>4</sub>	2 mM	MgSO <sub>4</sub>	2.5 mM
US <sup>+</sup> trace elements (Panke <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	0.1% (v/v)	US <sup>+</sup> trace elements (Panke <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	0.1% (v/v)	US <sup>+</sup> trace elements (Panke <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	0.1% (v/v)
D-glucose	0.5% (w/v)	D-glucose	0.5% (w/v)	D-glucose	0.5% (w/v)

## References

Panke, S., Meyer, A., Huber, C.M., Witholt, B., and Wubbolts, M.G. (1999) An alkane-responsive expression system for the production of fine chemicals. *Appl Environ Microbiol* **65**: 2324-2332.

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