Supplemental Table A. Differential phenotypic characteristics of *Deinococcus* species.

Characteristic	*D. radiodurans*	*D. murrayi*	*D. geothermalis* [a)]	*D. indicus* [b)]	1 (*n*=2)	2 (*n*=2)	3 (*n*=2)	4 (*n*=2)	5 (*n*=2)	6 (*n*=2)	7 (*n*=1)	8 (*n*=2)	9 (*n*=2)
Optimum growth temperature (ºC)	30	47	47	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Pigmentation	pink-red	orange	orange	red	slightly pink	slightly pink	pink	slightly pink	pink	pink	pink	slightly pink	pink
Cell morphology	spherical	spherical	spherical	rods	spherical	rods	spherical	spherical	rods	spherical	rods	rods	spherical/ short rods
Cytochrome oxidase	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-/+	+	+	+
Catalase	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Utilization of													
Glucose	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fructose	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-/+	+	+	+	+
Mannose	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	+	+
Rhamnose	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Arabinose	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+
Ribose	+	-	ND	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-
Xylose	-	-	+	ND	-	-	+	-	-	w	-	+	+
Lactose	-	-	+	+	-	-	-/+	-/+	-	+	-	+/-	+
Trehalose	+	+	+	ND	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Melibiose	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Glucosamine	+	-	ND	ND	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Glycerol	+	-	+	ND	-	-	-/+	-	+	w	-	-	+
α-cetoglutarate	-	-	ND	ND	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Lactate	+	-	ND	ND	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Malate	+	w	+	ND	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+/-	-
Ornithine	-	-	ND	ND	+	+	+	-	+	w	-	+	+
Aspartate	+	+	ND	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Glutamate	+	+	+	ND	+	+	-	-	+	w	-	+	-
Alanine	-	-	ND	-	-	-	-	-	-	w	-	+	-
Asparagine	-	-	+	ND	+/-	-	-	-	+	w	-	-	-
Glutamine	+	+	+	ND	+	-	+	-	+	w	w	+	w
Glycine	w	+	ND	-	-	w	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
G+C content (mol %)	67.0	69.9	65.9	65.8	67.9	66.4	66.2	68.5	71.1	71.5	66.1	69.0	70.3

1-9, *Deinococcus* new species; *n*, number of strains; +, positive result or growth; -, negative result or growth; w, weak growth; ND, not determined.

[a)], data from Ferreira *et al.* (19); [b)], data from Suresh *et al.* (61)

Galactose, maltose, sucrose, cellobiose and proline were assimilated by all of the strains, (galactose is not assimilated by *D. indicus*).

None of the strains utilized sorbose, raffinose, acetate, citrate, cysteine, lysine and methionine,.(raffinose is assimilated by *D. indicus*).