

Table 3. Taxonomic rank at various taxonomic ranges

Rank at 4th taxonomic range	Frequency	
phylum	2	(2)
subphylum	12	(11)
superclass	1	(1)
class	67	(57)
subclass	1	(1)
order	149	(126)
suborder	2	(1)
family	76	(61)
subfamily	2	(2)
genus	137	(71)
no rank	19	(12)
sum	468	(345)

Rank at 3rd taxonomic range	Frequency	
superphylum	1	(1)
phylum	45	(41)
class	35	(32)
subclass	3	(3)
order	41	(38)
family	15	(7)
no rank	12	(8)
sum	152	(130)

Rank at 2nd taxonomic range	Frequency	
kingdom	3	(3)
phylum	24	(23)
class	7	(7)
order	2	(1)
no rank	12	(10)
sum	48	(44)

(the number in paranthesis indicated the number of ranks of which SSU rRNA sequences were available from the European ribosomal RNA database)