Supplementary materials

Suppl. Fig. 1. A. Colonies of MSR-1_SU4, left panel and, MSR-1_SU12, right panel. Before excision by *Cre* recombinase, colonies are blue, due to *ß-glucuronidase* gene (*gusA*) expression harbored on the inserted pKmob*GII* vector. After excision of the genomic fragment colonies that lost the inserted vector appear whitish.

B. Amplification of the PCR product bridging the deletion region with flanking primer pairs mamAB_SUfw and mamAB_SUrw (right lane). M: 1 kb-DNA ladder marker.

C. Southern blot analysis of HincII digested genomic DNA from parental strains and deletants hybridized with α-P^{32}dATP labeled probe SondemamABfw + SondemamABrw is homologous to 981 bp at positions *mgr4088* to *mgr4089* (Fig. 2). Lane 1: Two bands of 4.188 kb and 1.543 kb can be detected in the WT (MSR-1), whereas the control MSR-1B (lane 2) lacking a 40 kb regions including the *mamAB* operon yields no signal. Lane 3: Δ*mamAB*#K7 yields a single band at 1.543 kb plus homologous region as result of the insertion of pSU12, indicating proper deletion.

Suppl. Table 1. Primers and probes used is this study

Primer[a]	Nucleotide sequence
5´mamABfw_SU	GAATTCATGCCGGACCAGGCTCGTAA
5´mamABrw_SU*loxP*	ATAACTTCGTATAGCATACATTATACGAAGTTATTCCCGTCACAATTCACCT
3´mamABfw_SU*loxP*	ATAACTTCGTATAGCATACATTATACGAAGTTATTAACGCCGCCATGGCCATG
3´mamABrw_SU	GAATTCATCAGGGCGGATAAATGTT
mamAB_SUfw	GAAAGAGAGCATGGCATCCTG
mamAB_SUrw	TGACCGATCAGGCTGCCTGA
SondemamABfw	GGTGTCTAATTCCTCCAGACA
SondemamABrw	GTCGTCACTGAAATCACCGG
5´MGR4058SUfw	GGATCCAGAAGACCGAGAATAAGCGC
5´MGR4058SUrw	TCTAGACATTTCCGCCGGATCGCAAC

SU127_f	CAGTGCATTATCTGCCGGT
SU132_r	GCGAGCATCCTCAGTGCGTA
3´MGR4146SUfw	GTCGACTGATATCGCCACCTTATGGG
3´MGR4146SUrw	AAGCTTACCAGCGACCCGCGCTTGCAATTGGC

[a] Sequence 5´ to 3´.