

TABLE S1. Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study.

Strain or plasmid	Relevant characteristic(s) <sup>a</sup>	Source or reference
<i>A. vinelandii</i> strains		
UW136	Rif <sup>r</sup> derived from strain UW (ATCC 13705)	(1)
UW1	<i>nifA</i> <sup>-</sup>	(6)
AVW552	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> )	This study
AVW627	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +60 ATG→TAG mutation	This study
AVW643	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW650	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +25-nt deletion	This study
AVW663	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with - 24/-12 GG/GC → AA/AT mutation	This study
AVW664	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +68 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW668	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +53 to +58-nt deletion	This study
AVW672	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-131 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +100-nt deletion	This study

AVW677	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-43 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW678	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-108 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW693	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-168 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +14 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW853	UW136 $\Delta$ <i>nasC</i> ::Gm <sup>r</sup>	This study
AVW816	UW136 $\Delta$ <i>nasC</i> ::Gm <sup>r</sup> <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> )	This study
AVW908	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>nasA</i> <sup>-316 to +297</sup> - <i>lacZ</i> ) with +68 to +100-nt deletion	This study
AVW960	UW136 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>P<sub>nasA</sub></i> - <i>lacZ</i> )	This study
AVW961	UW136 $\Delta$ <i>nasC</i> ::Gm <sup>r</sup> <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>P<sub>nasA</sub></i> - <i>lacZ</i> )	This study
AVW962	UW1 <i>vnf</i> ::Φ( <i>P<sub>nasA</sub></i> - <i>lacZ</i> )	This study

*E. coli* strain

DH5α	<i>supE44 ΔlacU169 hsdR17 recA1 endA1 gyrA96 hi-1 relA1</i>	GIBCO-BRL
MC1061	<i>F- Δ(lacI-lacY)74 galE15 galK16 relA1 rpsL150 spotTl hsdR2 λ-</i>	(2)

Plasmids

pBluescript II	Car <sup>r</sup> , cloning vector	Stratagene
KS(+)		

pBT	Cm <sup>r</sup> ; bait vector of BacterioMatch® II two-hybrid system	Stratagene
pBTW	Cm <sup>r</sup> ; derivative of pBT, expression vector	This work
pBlue-lacZ	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pBluescript II KS(+) containing lacZ from pSUP102::Tn5-B21 at <i>BamHI-XhoI</i> region	This study
pDK6	Km <sup>r</sup> ; protein expression vector	(4)
pDK6-S	Km <sup>r</sup> ; pDK6 carrying <i>nasS</i> at <i>EcoRI-BamHI</i> region	This work
pDK6-T	Km <sup>r</sup> ; pDK6 carrying <i>nasT</i> at <i>EcoRI-BamHI</i> region	This work
pICT4	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pIC20H carrying four tandem copies of <i>rrnB1</i> cloned at the <i>SphI</i> site	This study
pJW1	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pTZ19 carrying <i>vnf</i> sequence	(8)
pKT2-lacZ	Km <sup>r</sup> ; expression vector	(Pierson, unpublished data)
pPROBE-NT	Promoter-probe vector	(5)
pSUP102::Tn5-B21	Cm <sup>r</sup> Tet <sup>r</sup> , Transposable promoter probe; B21 in pSUP102	(7)
pTnMod-OGm	Gm <sup>r</sup> ; pMB1, <i>mob</i> _Tn5 <i>tnp</i>	(3)
pVnflacZa	Car <sup>r</sup> p15A; translational lacZ fusion probe vector	This study
pVnflacZb	Car <sup>r</sup> p15A; transcriptional lacZ fusion	This study

	probe vector	
pWB30	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pBluescript II KS(+) carrying 7.8-kb <i>XhoI-XhoI</i> DNA fragment containing the 5' end of <i>nasA</i> and its upstream sequence	This study
pWB552	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pVnflacZa carrying <i>nasA'-lacZ</i>	This study
pWB555	Cm <sup>r</sup> , pBTW carrying <i>lacUV5-nasA'-lacZ</i> fusion	This work
pWB627	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with ATG→TAG mutation in the <i>nasAB</i> leader region	This study
pWB643	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with +14 to +100-nt deletion in the <i>nasAB</i> leader region	This study
pWB650	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with +14 to +25-nt deletion in the <i>nasAB</i> leader region	This study
pWB663	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with -24/-12 GG/GC → AA/AT mutation at the <i>nasAB</i> promoter	This study
pWB664	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with +53 to +58-nt deletion in the <i>nasAB</i> leader region	This study
pWB668	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB552 with +68 to +100-nt deletion at the leader region	This study
pWB672	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB643 with the 5' end upstream of the <i>nasAB</i> promoter at -131	This study
pWB677	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB643 with the 5' end upstream of the <i>nasAB</i> promoter at -43	This study

pWB678	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB643 with the 5' end upstream of the <i>nasAB</i> promoter at -108	This study
pWB680	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pGEM-T carrying the <i>ntrC</i> gene	This study
pWB685	Gm <sup>r</sup> Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB680 with $\Delta ntrC::Gm^r$	This study
pWB693	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWB643 with the 5' end upstream of the <i>nasAB</i> promoter at -168	This study
pWB700	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pVnflacZa carrying <i>nirB'-lacZ</i>	This study
pWB901	Cm <sup>r</sup> ; pBTW carrying <i>lacUV5-nasA'-lacZ</i> fusion with the 5' stem of hairpin I deleted	This work
pWB902	Cm <sup>r</sup> ; pBTW carrying <i>lacUV5-nasA'-lacZ</i> fusion with the part of loop and 3' stem of hairpin II deleted	This work
pWB910	Cm <sup>r</sup> ; pBTW carrying <i>lacUV5-nasA'-lacZ</i> fusion with hairpin III deleted	This work
pWhite	Car <sup>r</sup> ; cloning vector	This study
pWvnf	Car <sup>r</sup> ; pWhite carrying 2.8-kb <i>vnf</i> sequence	This study

<sup>a</sup> Abbreviations: Car, carbenicillin; Cm, chloramphenicol; Gm, gentamicin; Km, kanamycin; Rif, rifampicin; Tet, tetracycline; *nasA'*, DNA sequence -316 to +297 around the *nasAB* promoter.

## References

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