Supplementary figure legends

Figure S1. NJ tree showing the relatedness of the 18S rRNA gene sequences of the soft coral samples compared with the references. Bootstrap values larger than 50% of 1,000 resamplings are shown on the nodes. See Table 1 for sample ID.

Figure S2. Cluster analysis based on the TRFLP analysis of the corals associated bacterial communities. The number follows the sample ID indicates the number of replicate. See Table 1 for sample ID.

Figure S3. Taxonomic classification of bacterial reads retrieved from amplicons of one randomly chosen replicate from different coral species into (a) phylum and (b) order levels using the RDP classifier. A confidence threshold of 50% was applied for classification. See Table 1 for sample abbreviations. See Table 1 for sample ID.