



Additional file 4 - Oxidative burst reactions in heterologous *N. tabacum* cell suspension cultures upon elicitation with supernatants of *X. campestris* pv. *campestris* cultures deficient in genes of the TonB system. All *X. campestris* pv. *campestris* strains were grown in minimal medium supplemented with FeSO₄ and 0.25% pectin. Cell-free supernatants of these cultivations were harvested and lipopolysaccharides were removed by treatment with polymyxin B-agarose. Aliquots of the supernatants were tested in suspension cell cultures for their ability to induce the generation of hydrogen peroxide. The *X. campestris* pv. *campestris* strains on which the individual supernatants depended and an incubation with water as a negative control are identified in a legend on an inlay panel. Mutant strains deficient in *exbD1* and *exbD2* were complemented by means of the plasmids pHGW243 and pHGW244, respectively (Wiggerich et al., 1997; Wiggerich and Pühler, 2000). Data related to complemented mutants are indicated by open symbols. Obviously, oxidative burst reactions were recovered in the complemented strains, indicating an involvement of TonB-genes including *exbD2* in the perception of the bacteria by the plant cells.