

S2 Table. *In silico* evaluation (percent matched 16S rRNA gene sequences)^c of universal primers, used to quantify the abundance of *Archaea* and *Bacteria*.

Taxa	No. of sequences used for evaluation	Archaeal universal primers pair ^a	Bacterial universal primers pair ^b
		ARC806-ARC915	Eub338-BAC515
<i>Archaea</i>	25,760	86.6 ^c	0.0
<i>Crenarchaeota</i>	2,202	72.8	0.0
<i>Euryarchaeota</i>	14,339	87.6	0.0
<i>Korarchaeota</i>	92	0.0	0.0
<i>Nanoarchaeota</i>	139	0.0	0.0
<i>Thaumarchaeota</i>	7,761	95.7	0.0
Unclassified <i>Archaea</i>	1,200	58.2	0.0
<i>Bacteria</i>	1,408,156	0.0	76.3
<i>Actinobacteria</i>	212,832	0.0	62.9
<i>Aquificae</i>	968	0.0	4.6
<i>Bacteroidetes</i>	173,039	0.0	84.9
<i>Caldisei</i>	218	0.0	0.5
<i>Chlamydiae</i>	317	0.0	0.0
<i>Chlorobi</i>	381	0.0	0.0
<i>Chloroflexi</i>	21,334	0.0	12.2
<i>Chrysiogenetes</i>	14	0.0	71.4
<i>Deferribacteres</i>	398	0.0	95.5
<i>Deinococcus-Thermus</i>	2,059	0.0	93.1
<i>Dictyoglomi</i>	19	0.0	0.0
<i>Elusimicrobia</i>	356	0.0	58.7
<i>Fibrobacteres</i>	823	0.0	89.2
<i>Fusobacteria</i>	1,181	0.0	924.6
<i>Gemmatimonadetes</i>	1,335	0.0	59.3
<i>Lentisphaerae</i>	1,792	0.0	0.2
<i>Nitrospirae</i>	1,647	0.0	58.5
<i>Planctomycetes</i>	11,190	0.0	0.9
<i>Proteobacteria</i>	398,053	0.0	80.6
<i>Spirochaetes</i>	10,229	0.0	17.1
<i>Synergistetes</i>	1,231	0.0	79.9
<i>Tenericutes</i>	4,632	0.0	3.1
<i>Thermodesulfobacteria</i>	106	0.0	88.7
<i>Thermotogae</i>	648	0.0	53.5
BRC1	395	0.0	13.7
<i>Parcubacteria</i>	150	0.0	0.0
<i>Microgenomates</i>	111	0.0	0.0
SR1	319	0.0	78.4
<i>Candidatus Saccharibacteria</i>	2,350	0.0	0.1
<i>Latescibacteria</i>	550	0.0	72.4
<i>Armatimonadetes</i>	1,112	0.0	2.6
<i>Verrucomicrobia</i>	10,137	0.0	0.1
<i>Acidobacteria</i>	15,398	0.0	66.9
<i>Firmicutes</i>	459,584	0.0	88.9
<i>Cyanobacteria / Chloroplast</i>	24,493	0.0	66.4
<i>Marinimicrobia</i>	982	0.0	71.2
<i>Aminicenantes</i>	1,464	0.0	87.2
<i>Omnitrophica</i>	19	0.0	10.5
<i>Acetothermia</i>	39	0.0	0.0
<i>Poribacteria</i>	103	0.0	3.9
<i>Atribacteria</i>	65	0.0	96.9
<i>Cloacimonetes</i>	167	0.0	9.6
<i>Candidatus Calescamantes</i>	3	0.0	66.7
WPS-1	769	0.0	0.0
WPS-2	97	0.0	0.0
<i>Hydrogenedentes</i>	446	0.0	2.0
ZB3	75	0.0	49.3
<i>Ignavibacteriae</i>	739	0.0	91.7
<i>Nitrospinae</i>	525	0.0	95.2
Unclassified <i>Bacteria</i>	32,285	0.0	36.2

^a Archaeal universal primer pair: Forward primer, ARC806 (3'-GGACTACVSGGGTATCTAAT-5', Casamayor *et al.*, 2002); reverse primer, ARC915 (3'-GTGCTCCCCGCCAATTCCT-5', Takai and Horikoshi, 2000)

^b Bacterial universal primer pair: Forward primer, Eub338 (3'-CTGCTGCCTCCCGTAGGAGT-5', Nadkarni *et al.*, 2002); reverse primer, BAC515 (3'-GTGCCAGCAGCCGCGTAATACG-5', Stahl and Amann, 1991)

^c Estimation using RDP's ProbeMatch software.