Supplemental Material for

Quantification of *Azospirillum brasilense* FP2 in wheat roots by strain-specific real-time qPCR

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Running title: qPCR Azospirillum brasilense quantification in roots

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Figure S1. Synteny plot between *Azospirillum brasilense*, strains FP2 and Sp245. All 413 contigs from FP2 were aligned against the chromosome and six plasmids from Sp245 using NUCmer and alignment was plotted using mummerplot, both included in MUMmer 3 software package (Kurtz et al., 2004); **(A)** syntheny plot shows the comparison of concatenated sequences (FP2 contigs were ordered to optimize the synteny); FP2 contigs, from which primers were designed, are indicated in the "Y" axis; Sp245 sequences are shown in the "X" axis as follows: chromosome (HE577327), AZOBR_p1 (HE577328), AZOBR_p2 (HE577329), AZOBR_p3 (HE577330), AZOBR_p4 (HE577331), AZOBR_p5 (HE577332), AZOBR_p6 (HE477333); **(B)** syntheny between contig APHV01000066 of FP2 against Sp245 chromosome region from 880,000 to 940,000 bp.

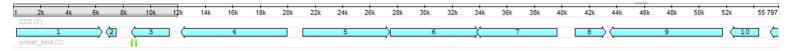
Figure S2. *Azospirillum brasilense* FP2 annotated genomic regions used for strain-specific primer pairs design. Contigs are identified by NCBI accession numbers; the gray box in upper ruler shows the contig region spanning the CDSs in the figure (shown in light blue and numbered sequentially); primer binding positions are shown in green as follows: Azo-2 in contig APHV0100066, AzoR5.x in contig APHV01000394, and AzoR2.x in contig APHV01000408 (with "x" meaning the primer version).

Figure S3. Quantitative real-time PCR (qPCR) standard curve for *Azospirillum* brasilense FP2. The standard curve was generated by plotting Ct values against log CFU equivalent/ g of wheat root; DNA was extracted from 100 μL of each serial dilution of *A. brasilense* FP2 culture mixed with 100 mg of crushed plant-root tissues.

Figure S4. Comparison for the quantification of *Azospirillum brasilense* FP2 associated with wheat roots in all three inoculation experiments performed under sterile and non-sterile conditions and inoculated with *Azospirillum brasilense* FP2

alone or co-inoculated with *Azospirillum brasilense* NH, *Herbaspirillum seropedicae* Z67, *Gluconacetobacter diazotrophicus* DSM 5601, and *Azospirillum lipoferum* DSM 1691 by qPCR method. Values for qPCR are mean of three strain-specific primer pairs. For each day, different letters indicate statistical difference at p<0.01.

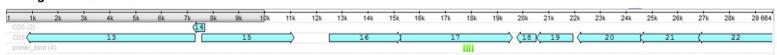
Contig APHV01000066



Contig APHV01000394

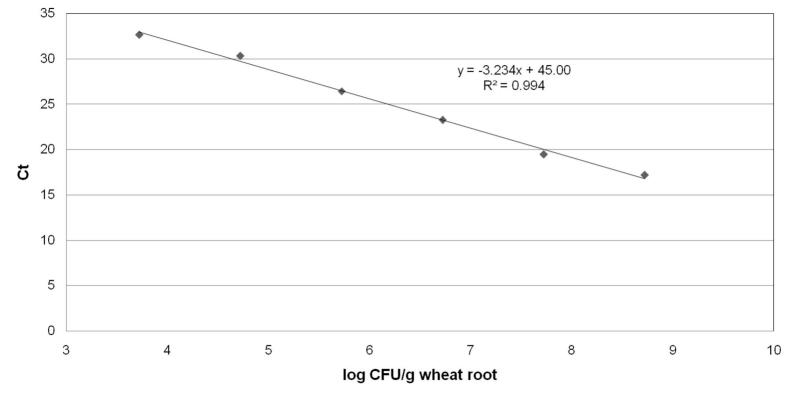


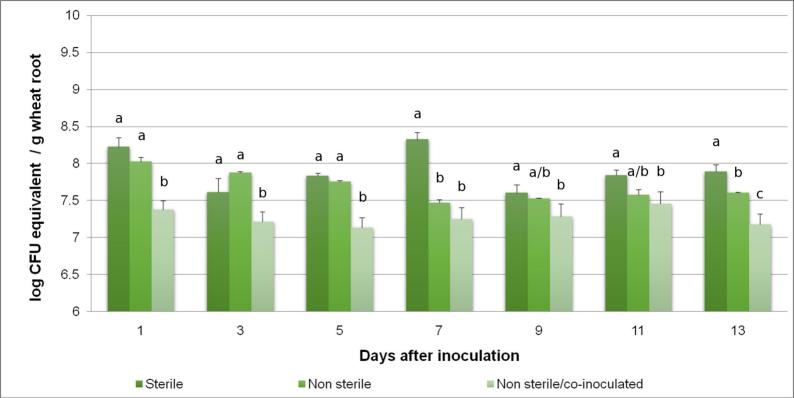
Contig APHV01000408



| ID¹ | Start | End | Length | Strand ² | Annotation |
|------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cont | ig APHV0100 | 00066 (55,797 | 7bp; GC 68.1% | 6; 56 ORF) | |
| 1 | 44 | 1366 | 1323 | | NAD synthetase (EC 6.3.1.5)/Glutamine amidotransferase chain of NAD synthetase |
| 2 | 1477 | 1608 | 132 | С | Hypothetical protein |
| 3 | 1874 | 2443 | 570 | С | Hypothetical protein |
| 4 | 2649 | 4286 | 1638 | С | Indole-3-pyruvate decarboxylase (EC 4.1.1.74) |
| 5 | 4537 | 5880 | 1344 | | Glutamyl-tRNA(Gln) synthetase (EC 6.1.1.24) |
| 6 | 5915 | 7288 | 1374 | | Cysteinyl-tRNA synthetase (EC 6.1.1.16) |
| 7 | 7293 | 8525 | 1233 | С | Glucans biosynthesis protein C (EC 2.1) |
| 8 | 8805 | 9269 | 465 | | Putative preQ0 transporter |
| 9 | 9382 | 11121 | 1740 | С | Digualylate cyclase/phosphodiesterase (GGDEF & EAL domains) with PAS/PAC sensor(s)) |
| 10 | 11268 | 11681 | 414 | С | Diguanylate cyclase/phosphodiesterase (GGDEF & EAL domains) with PAS/PAC sensor(s)) |
| Cont | ig APHV0100 | 00394 (2,497) | p; GC 67.5% | 2 ORF) | |
| 11 | 633 | 1577 | 945 | | Site-specific recombinases, DNA invertase Pin homologs |
| 12 | 1699 | 2496 | 798 | | Hypothetical protein; Pfam CATH domain related to peptidases in peptidase clan CD that |
| | | | | | includes the caspases |
| Cont | ig APHV0100 | 00408 (29,664 | lbp; GC 66.1% | 6; 31 ORF) | |
| 13 | 282 | 2456 | 2175 | С | Phage T7 exclusion protein |
| 14 | 2453 | 2584 | 132 | С | Hypothetical protein |
| 15 | 2552 | 3745 | 1194 | | TniA putative transposase |
| 16 | 4218 | 5144 | 927 | | TniB NTP-binding protein |
| 17 | 5148 | 6593 | 1446 | | TniQ domain containing protein |
| 18 | 6689 | 6919 | 231 | С | Hypothetical protein |
| 19 | 6945 | 7391 | 447 | С | Hypothetical protein |
| 20 | 7479 | 8282 | 804 | С | Enoyl-CoA hydratase (EC 4.2.1.17) |
| 21 | 8297 | 9049 | 753 | С | 3-oxoacyl-[acyl-carrier protein] reductase (EC 1.1.1.100) |
| 22 | 9053 | 10204 | 1152 | С | 3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase (EC 2.3.1.16) |

¹ORFs are numbered according to figure; ²c, complementary strand;





References

Kurtz S, Phillippy A, Delcher AL, Smoot M, Shumway M, Antonescu C, Salzberg SL. 2004. Versatile and open software for comparing large genomes. Genome Biol 5:R12.