Table S2 Parental strains and fusants detected in rat co-colonization model

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
OD8916α x														t = 28
W43**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	white	Rat1	2.7E+03	3.0E+02	8.4E+03	0.0E+00	1.4E+04	0.0E+00	4.3E+03	0.0E+00	70	10	0	0
		Rat2	2.2E+03	2.5E+02	1.1E+04	0.0E+00	1.1E+04	5.8E+02	1.7E+03	0.0E+00	80	20	0	0
		Rat3	2.9E+01	1.5E+00	1.5E+04	7.7E+02	1.8E+04	0.0E+00	4.5E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
														t = 28
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	white	Rat1	3.7E+02	3.0E+02	6.6E+02	4.4E+02	3.2E+03	3.2E+03	2.1E+02	4.1E+03	10	10	0	0
		Rat2	3.8E+02	4.6E+02	2.4E+02	2.0E+02	1.8E+03	2.8E+03	5.6E+02	5.1E+03	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	3.0E+02	2.0E+02	6.7E+02	1.0E+03	3.3E+03	4.9E+03	3.4E+02	6.5E+03	30	0	0	0
														t = 28
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	opaque	Rat1	3.7E+02	3.0E+02	6.6E+02	4.4E+02	1.2E+03	2.2E+03	1.2E+02	2.3E+03	129	104	30	0
		Rat2	3.8E+02	4.6E+02	2.4E+02	2.0E+02	5.8E+02	8.7E+02	6.3E+02	5.6E+03	82	0	0	0
		Rat3	3.0E+02	2.0E+02	6.7E+02	1.0E+03	1.2E+03	1.8E+03	1.3E+02	2.5E+03	110	50	0	0

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Table S2, continued

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	white	Rat1	1.3E+03	8.7E+02	3.7E+03	0.0E+00	1.1E+03	0.0E+00	5.7E+02	0.0E+00	30	30	0	0
		Rat2	2.4E+02	2.0E+02	2.8E+03	3.1E+02	1.0E+03	0.0E+00	3.6E+02	0.0E+00	10	50	10	0
		Rat3	1.1E+03	2.8E+02	4.0E+03	0.0E+00	9.9E+02	0.0E+00	5.0E+02	0.0E+00	30	0	0	0
W17α x W43**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	white	Rat1	3.4E+02	2.8E+02	1.5E+03	0.0E+00	5.0E+03	2.7E+02	4.1E+03	2.2E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	0.0E+00	0.0E+00	1.0E+01	0.0E+00	1.3E+03	6.8E+01	4.5E+03	2.4E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	5.8E+02	3.8E+02	5.1E+02	2.7E+01	2.9E+03	0.0E+00	7.8E+03	0.0E+00	40	0	0	0
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque	Rat1	3.4E+02	2.8E+02	1.5E+03	0.0E+00	1.1E+03	5.6E+01	9.5E+02	5.0E+01	227	0	0	0
		Rat2	0.0E+00	0.0E+00	2.0E+02	0.0E+00	8.4E+02	4.4E+01	7.8E+02	4.1E+01	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	6.5E+02	4.3E+02	5.1E+02	2.7E+01	4.0E+03	0.0E+00	1.0E+03	0.0E+00	70	0	0	0

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Table S2, continued

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
YSU63α x														t = 28
W43**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	white	Rat1	5.0E+03	1.3E+03	2.9E+03	3.2E+02	1.3E+03	6.9E+01	3.8E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	8.1E+03	9.0E+02	1.8E+03	0.0E+00	4.0E+03	0.0E+00	3.4E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	1.2E+03	6.5E+01	1.4E+03	1.6E+02	2.7E+03	0.0E+00	3.9E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
														t = 28
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	white	Rat1	9.1E+02	1.6E+02	6.5E+01	0.0E+00	2.0E+03	1.0E+02	2.3E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	4.3E+02	1.1E+02	3.2E+01	7.0E+00	7.6E+03	4.0E+02	2.6E+02	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	1.4E+03	3.5E+02	3.9E+02	0.0E+00	2.7E+03	0.0E+00	2.8E+02	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
														t = 28
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	d
	opaque	Rat1	3.9E+03	3.2E+03	3.6E+03	2.4E+03	1.3E+03	2.4E+03	2.4E+03	4.5E+04	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	3.2E+03	4.0E+03	4.0E+03	3.3E+03	3.6E+03	5.4E+03	3.2E+04	2.9E+05	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	4.7E+03	3.1E+03	4.3E+02	6.4E+02	3.0E+03	4.4E+03	1.1E+04	2.1E+05	0	0	0	0

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Table S2, continued

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque [c]	Rat1	6.1E+02	1.1E+03	7.3E+02	1.1E+03	1.1E+03	4.5E+02	1.2E+03	1.3E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	7.5E+02	1.4E+03	8.8E+02	8.8E+02	8.2E+02	2.1E+02	1.4E+03	7.6E+01	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	4.8E+02	1.1E+03	7.0E+02	8.5E+02	8.4E+02	2.1E+02	9.7E+02	1.1E+02	0	0	0	0
HUN97α x Au90**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	white	Rat1	0.0E+00	7.3E+03	0.0E+00	2.1E+04	1.8E+02	3.5E+03	3.6E+02	6.9E+03	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	1.9E+03	1.1E+04	0.0E+00	4.8E+02	3.2E+02	6.1E+03	3.7E+01	7.0E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	1.1E+03	9.8E+03	4.4E+02	8.4E+03	0.0E+00	5.8E+02	0.0E+00	5.8E+02	0	0	0	0
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque	Rat1	3.7E+02	4.5E+02	0.0E+00	2.2E+03	8.4E+01	1.6E+03	4.6E+01	8.8E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	5.9E+02	5.9E+02	0.0E+00	3.2E+03	9.8E+01	1.9E+03	1.9E+01	3.5E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	5.0E+02	7.5E+02	1.6E+02	3.1E+03	0.0E+00	2.2E+03	0.0E+00	4.1E+03	0	0	0	0

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Table S2, continued

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque [d]	Rat1	6.4E+02	1.9E+03	5.5E+02	1.3E+03	7.0E+02	8.5E+02	9.0E+02	3.9E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	2.2E+02	6.0E+02	7.3E+02	1.1E+03	3.9E+02	5.8E+02	1.1E+03	3.7E+02	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	3.7E+02	1.0E+03	4.6E+02	1.0E+03	4.2E+02	6.0E+02	8.7E+02	9.6E+01	0	0	0	0
FJ11α x Au90**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	white	Rat1	1.3E+03	1.5E+02	1.7E+03	0.0E+00	2.6E+03	0.0E+00	2.6E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	3.1E+03	3.4E+02	3.3E+04	0.0E+00	2.3E+03	1.2E+02	2.4E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	2.8E+02	1.5E+01	1.9E+03	1.0E+02	3.1E+03	0.0E+00	2.8E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque	Rat1	2.3E+03	4.0E+02	4.9E+03	0.0E+00	3.3E+03	1.7E+02	9.9E+02	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	2.5E+03	6.3E+02	2.0E+03	2.2E+02	2.1E+03	1.1E+02	5.1E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	3.0E+03	7.4E+02	2.7E+03	0.0E+00	1.1E+03	0.0E+00	7.6E+02	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0

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Table S2, continued

Mating	Inoculum		Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Parent 1	Parent 2	Fusants Detected [a,b]			
FJ11α x W43**a**			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	white	Rat1	4.0E+02	4.4E+01	4.4E+02	0.0E+00	9.9E+03	0.0E+00	1.0E+04	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	2.1E+02	2.3E+01	2.3E+02	0.0E+00	8.8E+03	4.6E+02	1.1E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	8.3E+01	4.4E+00	8.3E+01	4.4E+00	4.8E+03	0.0E+00	9.5E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
			t = 7 d		t = 14 d		t = 21 d		t = 28 d		t = 7 d	t = 14 d	t = 21 d	t = 28 d
	opaque	Rat1	1.3E+03	3.3E+02	4.7E+03	0.0E+00	2.2E+03	2.5E+02	1.7E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat2	1.5E+03	3.6E+02	3.2E+03	3.5E+02	1.5E+03	8.0E+01	3.1E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0
		Rat3	3.3E+03	8.3E+02	5.4E+03	0.0E+00	3.2E+03	0.0E+00	2.7E+03	0.0E+00	0	0	0	0

[a] No fusants were detected when any of the inocula were plated out at t = 0 d

[b] Identification of fusants was not significantly affected by marker loss. When groups of three rats were inoculated with either an OD8916α x W43**a** or a W17α x W43**a** fusant, and cells were recovered from the rats over a period of four weeks and checked for the presence of *MTL***a**, *MTL*□, *NAT*^{r} or *MPA*^{r} markers by PCR, only one out of 469 cells tested had lost one marker (*MPA*^{r})

[c] ratio of YSU63α:W43**a** in initial inoculum was 1:2

[d] ratio of HUN97α:Au90a in initial inoculum was 2:1