

Table S1 Strains and plasmids used in this work

Strain	Genotype	Source/Reference
MG1655	<i>ilvG rfb-50 rph-1</i>	Blattner <i>et al.</i> 1997
SQ11	$\Delta rrnE::KmR$	This work
SQ16	$\Delta rrnB::KmR$	This work
SQ20	$\Delta rrnG::KmR$	This work
SQ22	$\Delta rrnA::KmR$	This work
SQ24	$\Delta rrnD::KmR$	This work
SQ26	$\Delta rrnH::KmR$	This work
SQ34	$\Delta rrnC::KmR$	This work
SQ37	$\Delta rrnE$	This work
SQ40	$\Delta rrnEG$	This work
SQ49	$\Delta rrnGBA$	This work
SQ53	$\Delta rrnGBAD$	This work
SQ2062	$\Delta rrnGBAD(ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2066	$\Delta rrnGBAD(pK4-16)$	This work
SQ2200	$\Delta rrnGBAD(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ78	$\Delta rrnGADE$	This work
SQ2068	$\Delta rrnGADE(pK4-16)$	This work
SQ2197	$\Delta rrnGADE(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2199	$\Delta rrnGADE(ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ88	$\Delta rrnGADEH(ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2196	$\Delta rrnGADEH(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ110	$\Delta rrnGADBHC(ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2194	$\Delta rrnGADBHC(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ141	$\Delta rrnGADEHB(pKK3535, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2202	$\Delta rrnGADEHB(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2203	$\Delta rrnGADEHB(ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ171	$\Delta rrnGADEHBC(pKK3535, ptRNA67)$	This work
SQ2158	$\Delta rrnGADEHBC(pK4-16, ptRNA67)$	This work
Plasmid		
pKK3535	pBR322 ori, <i>rrnB</i>	Brosius <i>et al.</i> 1981
pK4-16	pSC101 ori, <i>rrnB</i>	This work
ptRNA67		Zaporjets <i>et al.</i> 2003
pKD46		Datsenko and Wanner 2000
pCP20		Cherepanov and Wackernagel 1995
pKD13		Datsenko and Wanner 2000