

**Biochar, bentonite and zeolite supplemented feeding of layer chickens
alters intestinal microbiota and reduces *Campylobacter* load**

Tanka P. Prasai¹, Kerry B. Walsh¹, Surya P. Bhattarai¹, David J. Midmore¹, Thi T. H. Van²,
Robert J. Moore^{2,3}, Dragana Stanley^{1*}

Supplementary Material

¹Central Queensland University, Institute for Future Farming Systems, Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia.

²RMIT University, School of Applied Sciences and Health Innovations Research Institute (HIRI), Bundoora, Victoria, Australia.

³Department of Microbiology, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria Australia.

Corresponding author

Dragana Stanley

Central Queensland University

Bruce Highway

School of Medical and Applied Sciences

Building 6 Room 2.33

Rockhampton QLD 4702

Email: D.Stanley@cqu.edu.au

Phone: +61 7 4923 2079

Fig. A

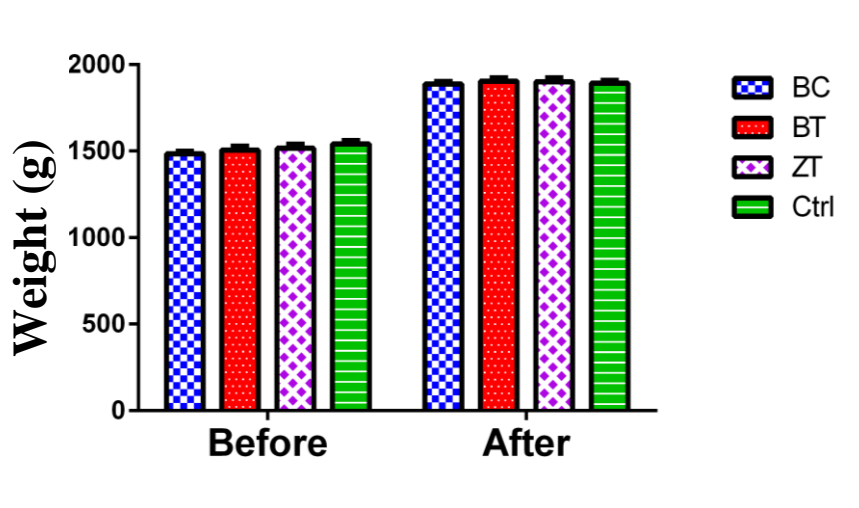


Fig. A: Bird weights were not different between the treatment groups before ($p=0.0284$) or after ($p=0.905$) 23 weeks of the diet treatment. The bars represent standard error.

Fig. B

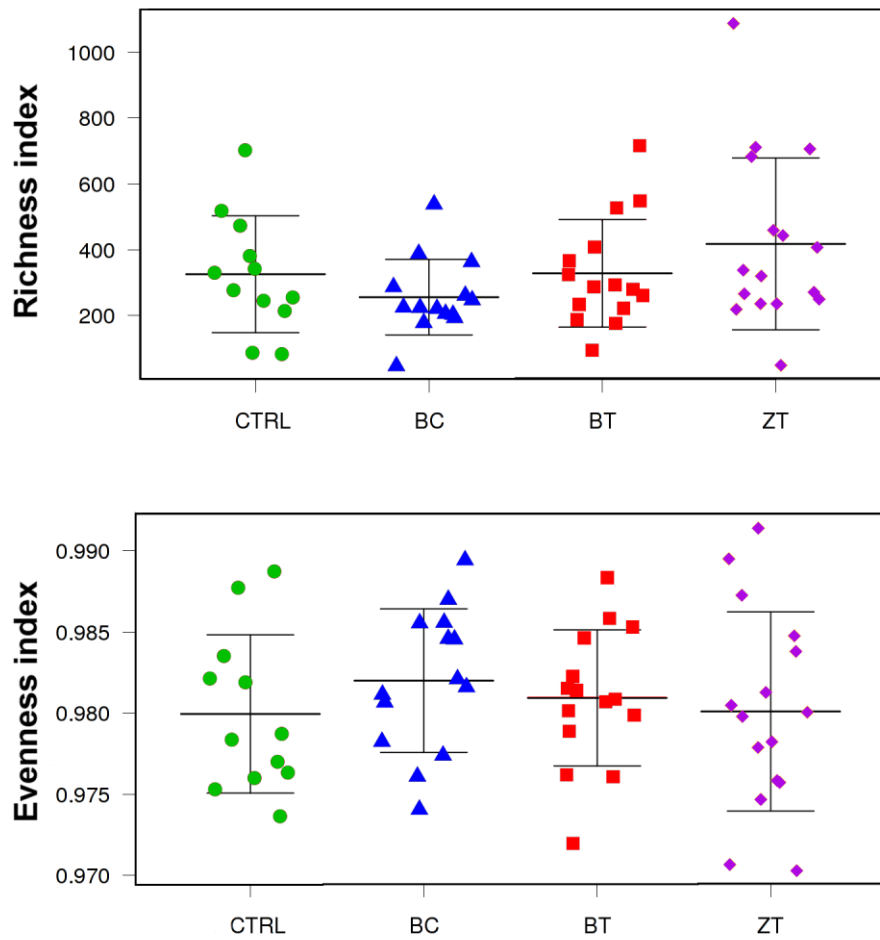


Fig. B: Addition of biochar (BC), bentonite (BT) and zeolite (ZT) to feed did not influence richness and diversity of the intestinal microbiota compared to un-supplemented control (CTRL). Top graph represents richness and bottom graph evenness index. Neither index were significantly ($p < 0.05$) altered with additives.

Fig. C

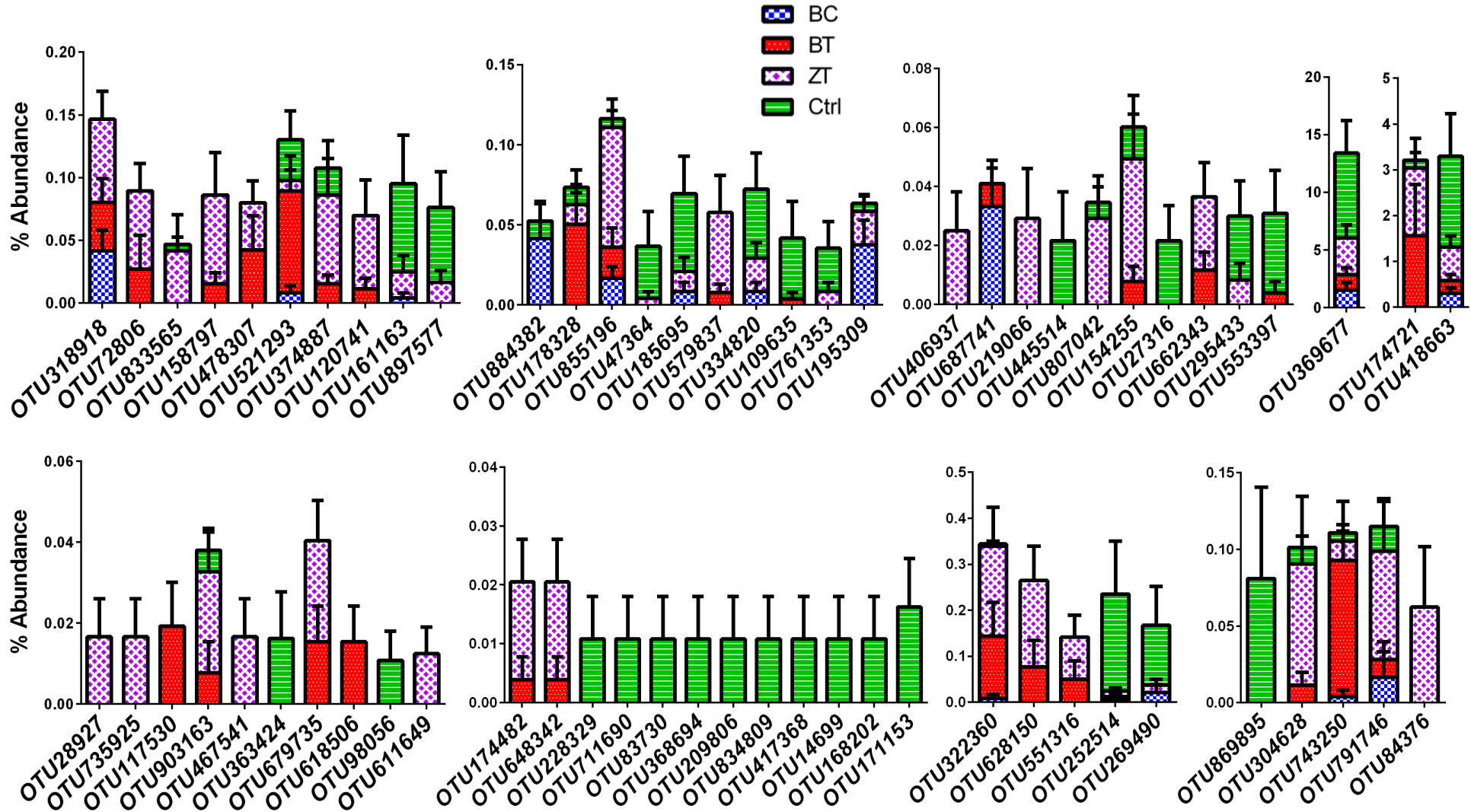


Fig. C: OTUs differentially abundant (QIIME based ANOVA) between the diet treatment groups. *P*-values and closest blast aligned strain from 16S Microbial database are given in the Table D. The bars represent standard error for $n > 12$.

Table A: Composition of the layer diets (%w/w)

	Control	Biochar 4 %	Zeolite 4 %	Bentonite 4 %
Dry matter (%)	90.37	90.70	90.63	90.67
Crude fat (%)	4.09	4.29	4.25	4.19
Crude ash (%)	13.06	16.68	16.34	16.83
Crude fibre (%)	3.17	3.02	2.68	2.38
Metabolisable energy (MJ/kg)	11.75	11.40	11.53	11.50
Crude protein (%)	17.91	17.74	17.81	17.52
Calcium (%)	4.23	4.27	4.25	4.30
Phosphorus available (%)	0.47	0.45	0.46	0.45
Lysine (%)	0.91	0.94	0.99	1.00
Methionine (%)	0.45	0.43	0.45	0.45
Methionine plus cysteine (%)	0.68	0.66	0.69	0.69

Poultry premix provided per kilogram of diet; Vitamin A, 15000 IU; Vitamin D3, 5,000 IU; Vitamin E, 50 mg; Vitamin K3, 10 mg; thiamine, 4 mg; riboflavin 8 mg; pyridoxine, 5 mg; Vitamin B12, 0.025; niacin, 50 mg; Ca-pantothenate, 20 mg; folic acid, 2 mg; biotin, 0.25 mg; ascorbic acid, 75 mg; choline, 175 mg; Mg, 35 mg; Mn, 56 mg; Zn, 140 mg; Fe, 56 mg; Cu, 10.5 mg; I, 1 mg; Co, 0.28 mg; Se, 0.28 mg; Mo, 0.7 mg

Table B: Sodium Bentonite Typical Chemical (oxide) analyses (dry basis)

SiO ₂	66.80%	K ₂ O	0.49%
Al ₂ O ₃	22.30%	TiO ₂	0.48%
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.26%	Mn ₃ O ₄	0.01%
CaO	1.48%	SO ₃	0.08%
MgO	2.59%	P ₂ O ₅	0.05%
Na ₂ O	2.48%	BaO	0.08%

Cation Exchange Capacity	
Minimum	70meq/100mg
Average	76meq/100mg
pH	Average 10.2
Physical Properties	
Grit Content	<3.0%
Total Moisture	Maximum 10.5%
Bulk Density	1.2kg/1

Exchangeable	Cations
Sodium	65.60%
Calcium	20.20%
Magnesium	12.40%
Potassium	1.80%
Sizing Analysis	
-2 mm	15%
-1.0 + 0.5 mm	32%
-0.5 mm	53%

Table C: Egg productivity and feed conversion ratio (FCR) across the 23 weeks of amended diet

Treatment	Egg production (% hens/day)	Average egg weight (g)	Egg mass yield (g/hen/day)	Feed intake (g/hen/day)	FCR (g feed/g egg)	Peak egg yield (% hens/day)
Biochar 4 %	84.8	61.0	51.7	109.7	2.12	89.3
Bentonite 4 %	85.2	61.9	52.7	116.3	2.20	87.1
Zeolite 4 %	85.8	62.3	53.5	116.2	2.17	88.6
Control	83.6	59.2	49.4	118.6	2.40	87.3
SEM	0.492	0.41	0.389	0.238	0.014	0.938
P values	0.053	0.03	0.001	0.001	0.007	0.366

* P values are based on Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for 20 birds in 4 pens for each treatment

Egg mass yield is calculated as egg production x average egg weight

FCR is calculated as feed intake / egg mass yield

Peak egg yield is the highest recorded

Table D: OTUs differentially abundant (Qiime based ANOVA, shown in S3 Fig.) between the diet treatment groups. The best blastn aligned strain and % ID against 16S Microbial database are given followed with Qiime derived blastn GreenGenes taxonomy assignment.

OTU ID	p-Value	Blastn against 16S Microbial database	%ID	Qiime GreenGenes assignment
OTU369677	0.028	<i>Gallibacterium anatis</i> UMN179 strain UMN179	100	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium anatis</i>
OTU174721	0.050	<i>Clostridium fimetarium</i> strain Z-2189	94	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU418663	0.005	<i>Gallibacterium anatis</i> strain F 149	99	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium anatis</i>
OTU322360	0.037	<i>Ruminococcus lactaris</i> strain ATCC 29176	94	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU252514	0.025	<i>Rothia nasimurium</i> strain CCUG 35957	91	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Micrococcaceae/ <i>Rothia</i>
OTU269490	0.011	<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i> subsp. <i>jejuni</i> NCTC 11168 = ATCC 700819	100	Proteobacteria/Epsilonproteobacteria/Campylobacteriales/Campylobacteraceae/ <i>Campylobacter</i>
OTU628150	0.035	<i>Clostridium populeti</i> strain 743A	94	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU551316	0.014	<i>Clostridium algidixylanolyticum</i> strain SPL73	95	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae/ <i>Clostridium</i>
OTU869895	0.028	<i>Clostridium orbiscindens</i> DSM 6740 strain 265	96	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae/ <i>Clostridium</i>
OTU304628	0.021	<i>Lactobacillus crispatus</i> ST1 strain ST1	95	Firmicutes/Bacilli/Lactobacillales/Lactobacillaceae/ <i>Lactobacillus/Lactobacillus helveticus</i>
OTU743250	0.037	<i>Aminobacter niigataensis</i> strain DSM7050	97	Proteobacteria/Alphaproteobacteria/Rhizobiales/Phyllobacteriaceae
OTU791746	0.023	<i>Corynebacterium amycolatum</i> strain CIP 103452	97	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Corynebacteriaceae/ <i>Corynebacterium</i>
OTU84376	0.009	<i>Phascolarctobacterium faecium</i> strain ACM 3679	90	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Veillonellaceae/ <i>Phascolarctobacterium</i>
OTU72806	0.019	<i>Actinomyces nasicola</i> strain R2014	90	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces marimammalium</i>
OTU833565	0.037	<i>Peptoniphilus ivorii</i> strain DSM 10022	92	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/ClostridialesFamilyXI.IncertaeSedis/ <i>Peptoniphilus</i>
OTU158797	0.032	<i>Ruminococcus lactaris</i> strain ATCC 29176	95	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU478307	0.037	<i>Clostridium fimetarium</i> strain Z-2189	91	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU521293	0.007	<i>Ralstonia syzygii</i> strain ATCC 49543	97	Proteobacteria/Betaproteobacteria/Burkholderiales/Oxalobacteraceae
OTU374887	0.022	<i>Actinomyces nasicola</i> strain R2014	90	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae
OTU120741	0.029	<i>Atopobium parvulum</i> DSM 20469 strain DSM 20469	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Coriobacteriales/Coriobacteriaceae
OTU161163	0.024	<i>Gallibacterium anatis</i> UMN179 strain UMN179	89	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium anatis</i>
OTU897577	0.042	<i>Actinomyces nasicola</i> strain R2014	87	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae

OTU ID	p-Value	Blastn against 16S Microbial database	%ID	Qiime GreenGenes assignment
OTU318918	0.040	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU884382	0.029	<i>Enterococcus cecorum</i> strain ATCC 43198	98	Firmicutes/Bacilli/Lactobacillales/Enterococcaceae/ <i>Enterococcus/Enterococcus cecorum</i>
OTU178328	0.046	<i>Naxibacter varians</i> strain : CCUG 35299	99	Proteobacteria/Betaproteobacteria/Burkholderiales/Oxalobacteraceae/ <i>Massilia/Massilia timonae</i>
OTU855196	0.043	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU47364	0.039	<i>Varibaculum cambriense</i> strain CCUG 44998	92	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Varibaculum/Varibaculum cambriense</i>
OTU185695	0.037	<i>Actinomyces nasicola</i> strain R2014	91	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Bogoriellaceae/ <i>Georgenia</i>
OTU579837	0.037	<i>Ruminococcus lactaris</i> strain ATCC 29176	96	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU334820	0.029	<i>Helcococcus sueciensis</i> strain CCUG 47334	87	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/ClostridialesFamilyXI.IncertaeSedis/ <i>Helcococcus</i>
OTU109635	0.001	<i>Gallibacterium anatis</i> UMN179 strain UMN179	97	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium genom sp.1</i>
OTU761353	0.036	<i>Actinomyces canis</i> strain CCUG 41706	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces</i>
OTU195309	0.035	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU406937	0.026	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU687741	0.004	<i>Barnesiella intestinihominis</i> YIT 11860 strain YIT 11860	88	Bacteroidetes/Bacteroidia/Bacteroidales
OTU219066	0.033	<i>Ruminococcus lactaris</i> strain ATCC 29176	97	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU445514	0.005	<i>Clostridium xylanolyticum</i> strain DSM 6555	92	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU807042	0.049	<i>Parasporobacterium paucivorans</i> strain SYR1	90	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU154255	0.049	<i>Ruminococcus torques</i> strain VPI B2-51	86	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae/ <i>Ruminococcus</i>
OTU27316	0.049	<i>Actinomyces canis</i> strain CCUG 41706	90	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae
OTU662343	0.045	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	94	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU295433	0.046	<i>Rothia nasimurium</i> strain CCUG 35957	92	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Micrococcaceae/ <i>Rothia</i>
OTU553397	0.044	<i>Enterococcus avium</i> strain E6844	88	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Micrococcaceae/ <i>Rothia</i>
OTU28927	0.045	<i>Barnesiella intestinihominis</i> YIT 11860 strain YIT 11860	78	Bacteroidetes/Bacteroidia/Bacteroidales
OTU735925	0.044	<i>Paraprevotella clara</i> YIT 11840 strain YIT 11840	87	Bacteroidetes/Bacteroidia/Bacteroidales/Prevotellaceae/ <i>Prevotella</i>
OTU117530	0.042	<i>Clostridium sartagoforme</i> strain DSM 1292	94	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Clostridiaceae/ <i>Clostridium/Clostridium perfringens</i>
OTU903163	0.042	<i>Peptoniphilus ivorii</i> strain DSM 10022	88	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/ClostridialesFamilyXI.IncertaeSedis/ <i>Peptoniphilus</i>
OTU467541	0.019	<i>Clostridium celerecrescens</i> strain DSM 5628	96	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae

OTU ID	p-Value	Blastn against 16S Microbial database	%ID	Qiime GreenGenes assignment
OTU363424	0.033	<i>Clostridium methylpentosum</i> DSM 5476 strain R2	90	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae/ <i>Clostridium</i>
OTU679735	0.037	<i>Faecalibacterium prausnitzii</i> strain ATCC 27768	90	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae/ <i>Faecalibacterium</i>
OTU618506	0.037	<i>Balneimonas flocculans</i> strain TFB	99	Proteobacteria/Alphaproteobacteria/Rhizobiales/ <i>Bradyrhizobiaceae</i>
OTU98056	0.039	<i>Actinomyces marimammalium</i> strain CCUG 41710	88	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces</i>
OTU611649	0.003	<i>Actinomyces europaeus</i> strain CCUG 32789A	95	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Actinomycetaceae/ <i>Actinomyces/Actinomyces europaeus</i>
OTU228329	0.026	<i>Rothia terrae</i> strain L-143	93	Actinobacteria/Actinobacteria/Actinomycetales/Micrococcaceae/ <i>Kocuria</i>
OTU174482	0.009	<i>Galbibacter mesophilus</i> strain Mok-17	84	Bacteroidetes/Bacteroidia/Bacteroidales
OTU711690	0.013	<i>Bacteroides dorei</i> DSM 17855 strain JCM 13471	99	Bacteroidetes/Bacteroidia/Bacteroidales/Bacteroidaceae/ <i>Bacteroides/Bacteroides dorei</i>
OTU83730	0.037	<i>Clostridium saccharogumia</i> strain SDG-Mt85-3Db	86	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Clostridiaceae/ <i>Clostridium</i>
OTU368694	0.040	<i>Actinomyces cardiffensis</i> strain CCUG 44997	85	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/ClostridialesFamilyXI.IncertaeSedis/ <i>Peptoniphilus</i>
OTU209806	0.032	<i>Clostridium aldenense</i> strain RMA 9741	96	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Lachnospiraceae
OTU648342	0.020	<i>Clostridium sporosphaeroides</i> strain DSM 1294	91	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae
OTU834809	0.014	<i>Faecalibacterium prausnitzii</i> strain ATCC 27768	94	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae/ <i>Faecalibacterium</i>
OTU417368	0.037	<i>Clostridium methylpentosum</i> DSM 5476 strain R2	87	Firmicutes/Clostridia/Clostridiales/Ruminococcaceae/ <i>Ruminococcus</i>
OTU14699	0.004	<i>Serratia marcescens</i> WW4 strain WW4	87	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Enterobacteriales/ <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>
OTU168202	0.008	<i>Corynebacterium xerosis</i> strain ATCC 373	88	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium anatis</i>
OTU171153	0.036	<i>Gallibacterium anatis</i> UMN179 strain UMN179	97	Proteobacteria/Gammaproteobacteria/Pasteurellales/Pasteurellaceae/ <i>Gallibacterium/Gallibacterium anatis</i>