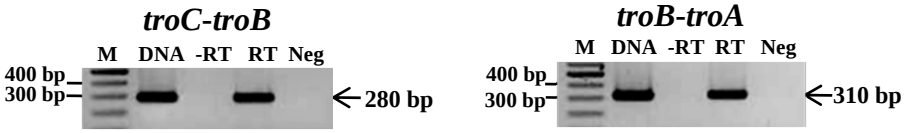

FIG. S1 RT-PCR analysis. RNA was isolated from log-phase cells of wild-type NTL4 grown in LB and treated with 1 mM EDTA for 15 min. Primer sets were used to amplify the junctions between *troC* and *troB* (BT4265 and BT4266) and between *troB* and *troA* (BT4267 and BT4268). Abbreviations: M, a 100-bp ladder marker; DNA, NTL4 chromosomal DNA template (a positive control); -RT, reaction without reverse transcriptase (a DNA contamination control); RT, reaction with reverse transcriptase; Neg, the PCR reaction without template (a negative control). The expected sizes of the PCR products are indicated.

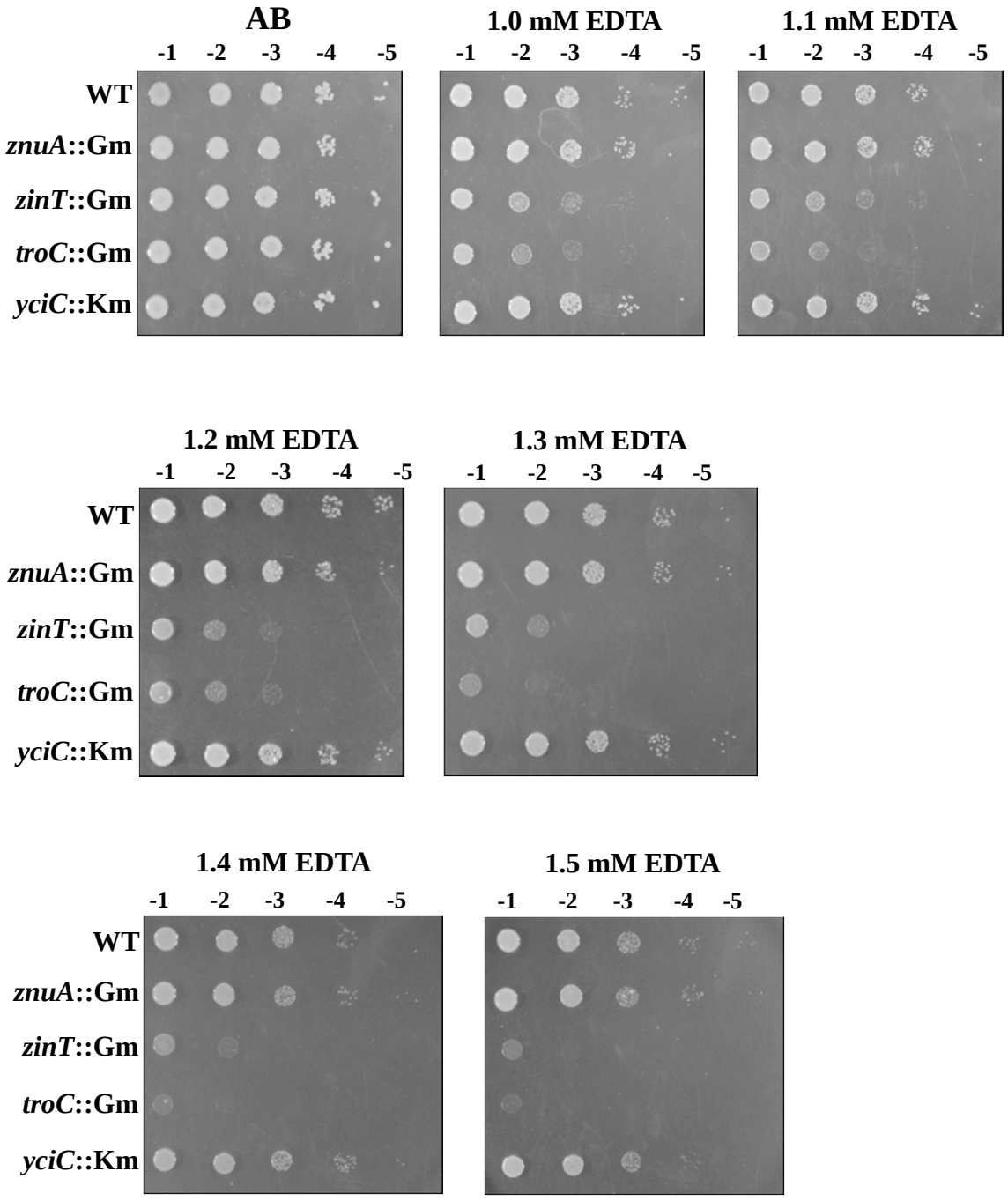

FIG. S2 Sensitivity to EDTA. Wild-type (WT) and the mutant strains; PS132 (*znuA*::Gm), PC135 (*zinT*::Gm), TC142 (*troC*::Gm) and YC154 (*yciC*::Km) were adjusted, serially diluted and spotted onto plates containing AB and AB + EDTA (1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 mM). Tenfold serial dilutions are indicated. The plates were incubated at 28°C for 48 h.

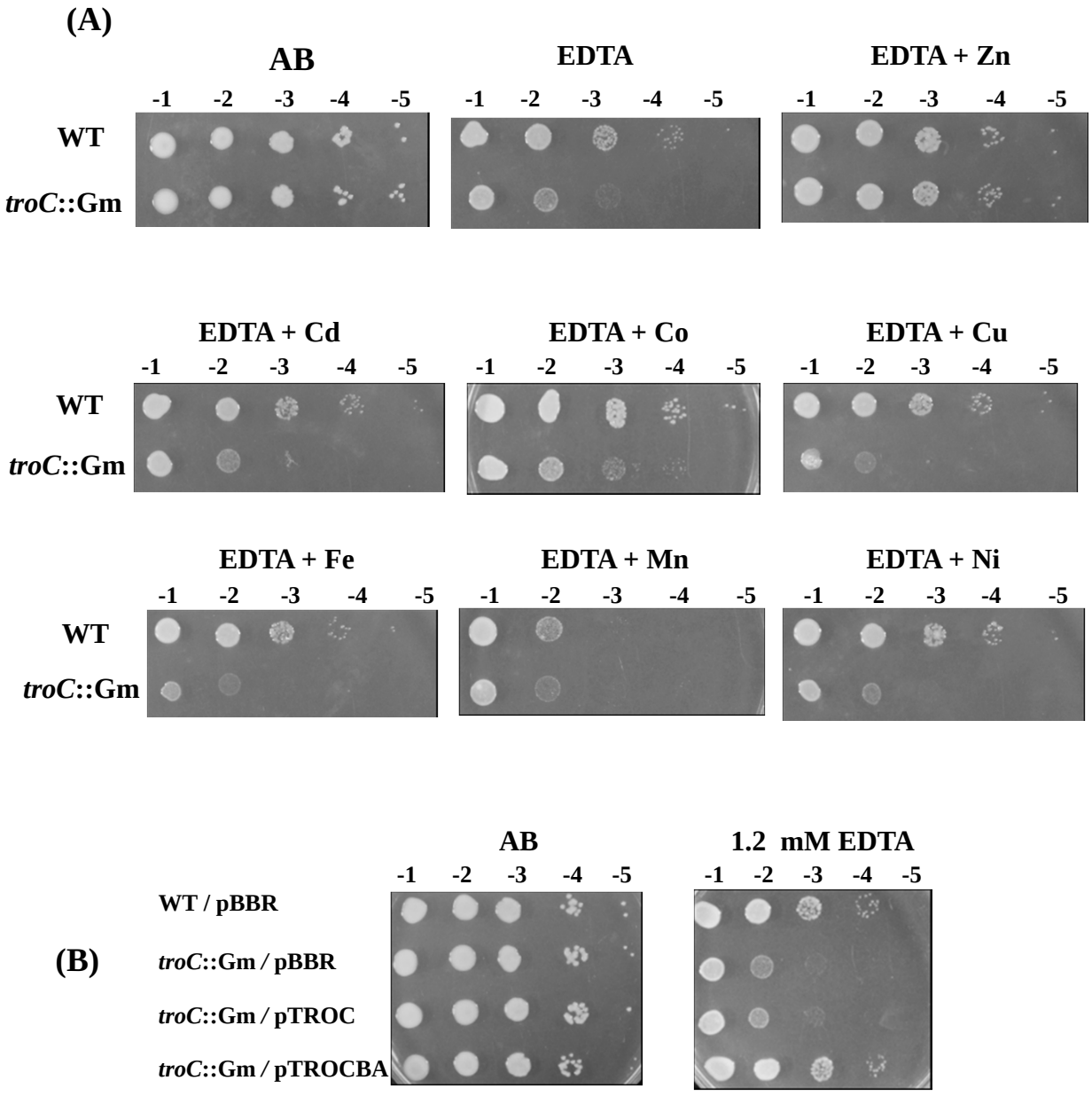

FIG. S3 Sensitivity to EDTA. Wild-type (WT) and TC142 (*troC*::Gm) carry the plasmid vector (pBBR). The mutant strain was complemented with the functional *troC* or *troCBA* from the multicopy plasmids pTROC and pTROCBA, respectively. Cells were adjusted, serially diluted and spotted onto plates containing AB, AB + 1.2 mM EDTA and AB + 1.2 mM EDTA supplemented with 50 μM of $ZnCl_2$, $CdCl_2$, $CoCl_2$, $CuSO_4$, $FeCl_3$, $MnCl_2$ or $NiCl_2$ plates. Tenfold serial dilutions are indicated. The plates were incubated at 28°C for 48 h.

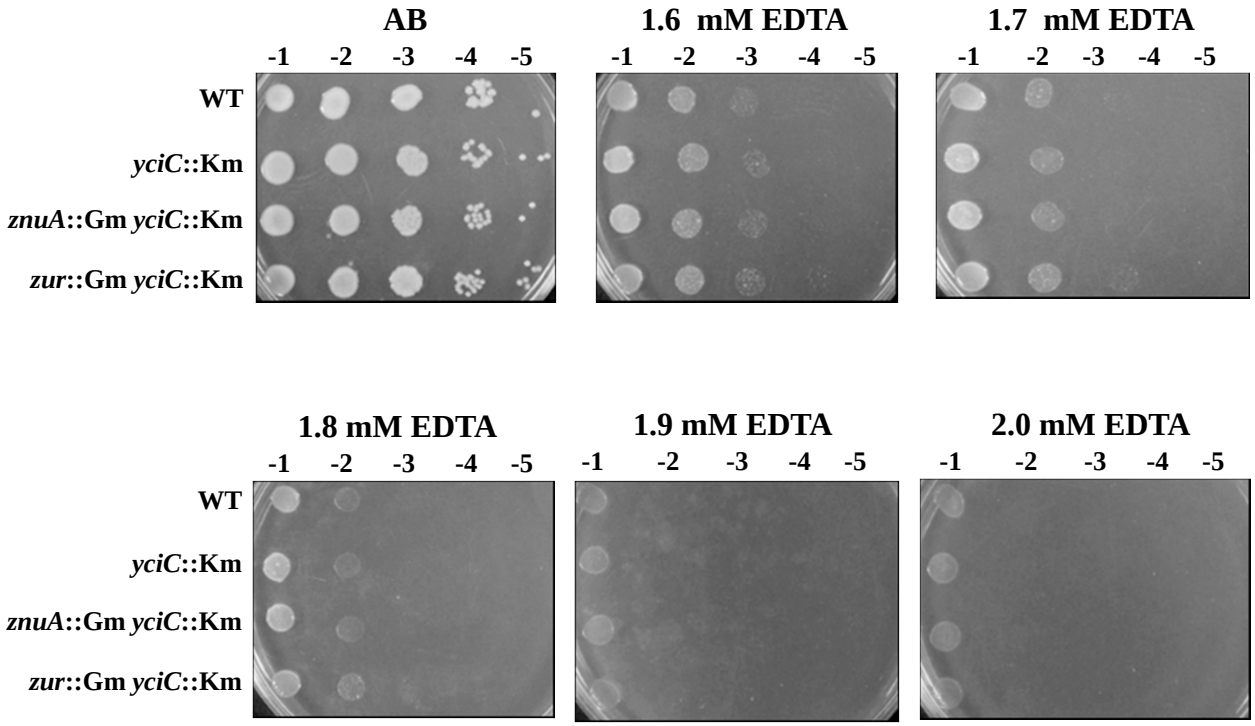

FIG. S4 Sensitivity to EDTA. Wild-type (WT), YC154 (*yciC*::Km), ZAYC15 (*znuA*::Gm *yciC*::Km) and ZURYC15 (*zur*::Gm *yciC*::Km) cells were adjusted, serially diluted and spotted onto plates containing AB and AB + EDTA (1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9 and 2.0 mM). Tenfold serial dilutions are indicated. The plates were incubated at 28°C for 48 h.