

S5 Table. OTU overlaps ^a between/among technical replicates for experiment I

| Soil Sample | With singletons | | Singletons removed | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | Two tags | Three tags | Two tags | Three tags |
| FP1 | 0.366±0.008 | 0.228 | 0.392±0.001 | 0.247 |
| FP2 | 0.314±0.009 | 0.185 | 0.338±0.006 | 0.199 |
| FP3 | 0.360±0.004 | 0.220 | 0.377±0.003 | 0.235 |
| FC1 | 0.364±0.006 | 0.225 | 0.391±0.005 | 0.248 |
| FC2 | 0.376±0.011 | 0.237 | 0.383±0.013 | 0.238 |
| FC3 | 0.299±0.019 | 0.174 | 0.330±0.010 | 0.195 |
| HP1 | 0.324±0.007 | 0.191 | 0.350±0.009 | 0.210 |
| HP2 | 0.327±0.005 | 0.197 | 0.359±0.007 | 0.218 |
| HP3 | 0.335±0.002 | 0.204 | 0.368±0.001 | 0.226 |
| HC1 | 0.320±0.010 | 0.189 | 0.359±0.005 | 0.215 |
| HC2 | 0.342±0.010 | 0.208 | 0.383±0.007 | 0.239 |
| HC3 | 0.320±0.004 | 0.187 | 0.349±0.002 | 0.208 |
| YP1 | 0.320±0.003 | 0.189 | 0.351±0.003 | 0.211 |
| YP2 | 0.327±0.004 | 0.196 | 0.346±0.010 | 0.206 |
| YP3 | 0.327±0.011 | 0.198 | 0.355±0.003 | 0.211 |
| YC1 | 0.338±0.001 | 0.208 | 0.376±0.006 | 0.236 |
| YC2 | 0.327±0.011 | 0.195 | 0.370±0.007 | 0.227 |
| YC3 | 0.330±0.003 | 0.199 | 0.370±0.005 | 0.228 |
| Average | 0.334±0.021 | 0.202±0.017 | 0.364±0.019 | 0.222±0.016 |

^a Before the OTU overlaps were calculated, each sample was rarefied at the level of 10323 sequences, the least sequence number of the 54 libraries.