

S3 Table: GT₅₀ (Time taken for 50% of conidia to germinate) values of three independent isolates of a *Pks1* mutant in seven *Metarhizium* species and their respective wild-type strains (WT) under optimal conditions (grown at 26°C in 1/2 SDY). Within each row (species), values appended by different letters are significantly different ($P < 0.05$, Tukey's test in One-way ANOVA). All assays were repeated three times with three replicates per repeat.

Species	GT ₅₀ (hours)			
	WT	$\Delta Pks1\text{-}\#1$	$\Delta Pks1\text{-}\#2$	$\Delta Pks1\text{-}\#3$
<i>M. robertsii</i>	6.74±0.12 ^a	5.00±0.22 ^b	5.23±0.14 ^b	5.58±0.10 ^b
<i>M. anisopliae</i>	7.95±0.12 ^a	8.21±0.14 ^a	8.62±0.31 ^a	8.03±0.51 ^a
<i>M. brunneum</i>	7.36±0.18 ^a	7.56±0.22 ^a	8.20±0.10 ^a	8.26±0.06 ^a
<i>M. guizhouense</i>	8.98±0.32 ^a	9.53±0.27 ^a	9.32±0.23 ^a	9.30±0.24 ^a
<i>M. majus</i>	12.61±0.33 ^a	8.14±0.43 ^b	7.71±1.0 ^b	8.51±0.65 ^b
<i>M. acridum</i>	13.7±0.13 ^a	14.93±0.29 ^b	14.81±0.18 ^b	14.85±0.18 ^b
<i>M. album</i>	9.08±0.16 ^a	7.47±0.34 ^b	7.71±0.17 ^b	8.13±0.07 ^b