

**S3 Table: Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study**

Strain Code	Strain	Genotype	Construction	Source or Reference
TM108	<i>Myxococcus xanthus</i> DZ2	Wild type	-	Laboratory collection
EM606	$\Delta wzxX$	$\Delta mxan\_7416$	TM108 + pEM440 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_7416$ )	This work
EM616	$\Delta wzyX$	$\Delta mxan\_7442$	TM108 + pEM470 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_7442$ )	This work
EM572	$\Delta wzcX$	$\Delta mxan\_7421/epsV$	TM108 + pEM441 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_7421$ )	This work
EM614	$\Delta wzxX$	$\Delta mxan\_7447$	TM108 + pEM468 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_7447$ )	This work
TM469	$\Delta wzaX$	$\Delta mxan\_7417/epsY$	TM108 + pTM211 (pBJ114- $\Delta mxan\_7417$ )	[1]
TM484	$\Delta wzaS$	$\Delta mxan\_3225/exoA/fdgA$	TM108 + pTM210 (pBJ114- $\Delta mxan\_3225$ )	[1]
EM619	$\Delta wzxB$	$\Delta mxan\_1035$	TM108 + pEM471 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_1035$ )	This work
EM618	$\Delta wzyB$	$\Delta mxan\_1028$	TM108 + pEM472 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_1028$ )	This work
EM588	$\Delta wzcB$	$\Delta mxan\_1025/btkB$	TM108 + pEM462 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_1025$ )	This work
EM615	$\Delta wzcB_{BYK}$	$\Delta mxan\_1025$ bp 1392-2091 (BYK domain)	TM108 + pEM469 (pBJ113- $\Delta mxan\_1025$ from aa 465-697)	This work
TM529	$\Delta wzaB$	$\Delta mxan\_1915$	TM108 + pTM212 (pBJ114- $\Delta mxan\_1915$ )	[1]
EM596	$\Delta wzcX \Delta wzaX$	$\Delta mxan\_7417 \Delta mxan\_7421$	TM469 + pEM441	This work
EM592	$\Delta wzaX \Delta wzaB$	$\Delta mxan\_7417 \Delta mxan\_1915$	TM469 + pTM211	This work
EM591	$\Delta wzcB \Delta wzaB$	$\Delta mxan\_1025 \Delta mxan\_1915$	TM529 + pEM462	This work
EM651	$\Delta wzaB \Delta wzaS$	$\Delta mxan\_1915 \Delta mxan\_3225$	TM529 + pTM210	This work
TM488	$\Delta wzaX \Delta wzaS$	$\Delta mxan\_7417 \Delta mxan\_3225$	TM469 + pTM210	This work
TM530	$\Delta wzaX \Delta wzaB \Delta wzaS$	$\Delta mxan\_7417 \Delta mxan\_1915$ $\Delta mxan\_3225$	TM488 + pTM212 (pBJ114- $\Delta mxan\_1915$ )	This work
TM293	$\Omega pilA$	Tetracycline resistance cassette	TM108 + $pilA::tet$ , Tcr	Laboratory collection
TM493	$\Delta wzaX \Omega pilA$	$\Delta mxan\_7417 \Omega pilA$	TM469 + $\Omega pilA$ chromosomal DNA	This work
TM540	$\Delta wzaB \Omega pilA$	$\Delta mxan\_1915 \Omega pilA$	TM529 + $\Omega pilA$ chromosomal DNA	This work
EM693	$\Delta wzaX$ OMss-sfGFP	$\Delta mxan\_7417$ OMss-sfGFP	TM469 + pSWU19- promPilA-OMss-sfGFP	This work
EM691	$\Delta wzaB$ IMss-mCherry	$\Delta mxan\_1915$ IMss-mCherry	TM529 + pSWU19- promPilA-IMss-mCherry	This work
EM709	P <sub>EPS</sub> -sfGFP + P <sub>BPS</sub> -mCherry	WT P <sub>EPS</sub> -sfGFP + P <sub>BPS</sub> -mCherry	TM108 + pSWU19- promWzxX-sfGFP + promWzcb-mCherry	This work
EC393	<i>Escherichia coli</i> MG1655	F <sup>-</sup> lambda <sup>-</sup> ilvG <sup>-</sup> rfb-50 rph-1	-	Laboratory collection

[1] Ducret A, Valignat M-P, Mouhamar F, Mignot T, Theodoly O. Wet-surface-enhanced ellipsometric contrast microscopy identifies slime as a major adhesion factor during bacterial surface motility. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA. 2012. 109(25):10036-10041.