

Supplementary Table S4. Primer pairs used to amplify the entire *kpfR* coding region plus 3' and 5' flanking regions to generate the complemented strain.

<i>Primers</i>	Sequence (5'>3')	Tm	Amplicon (base pairs)
<i>kpfR</i> -F _{com}	AGCT <u>AAGCTTC</u> AGCCCGAG	60° C	2426
<i>kpfB</i> -R _{com}	GCTGCCACTGCAGATTTTC		

The forward primer (*kpfR*-F_{com}) contains a restriction site for *Hind*III (underlined nucleotides). The PCR product was digested with *Hind*III and *Kpn*I restriction enzymes, rendering a digested fragment of 1825 nucleotides comprising the entire coding region of *kpfR* gene plus 568 nucleotides upstream the ATG start codon of *kpfR* and 555 nucleotides downstream the stop codon TAA of *kpfR*. The digested fragment was cloned on pCR2.1-TOPO vector, and the recombinant vector was used to transform the *kpfR*::*kan*^R mutant strain to generate the complemented strain.