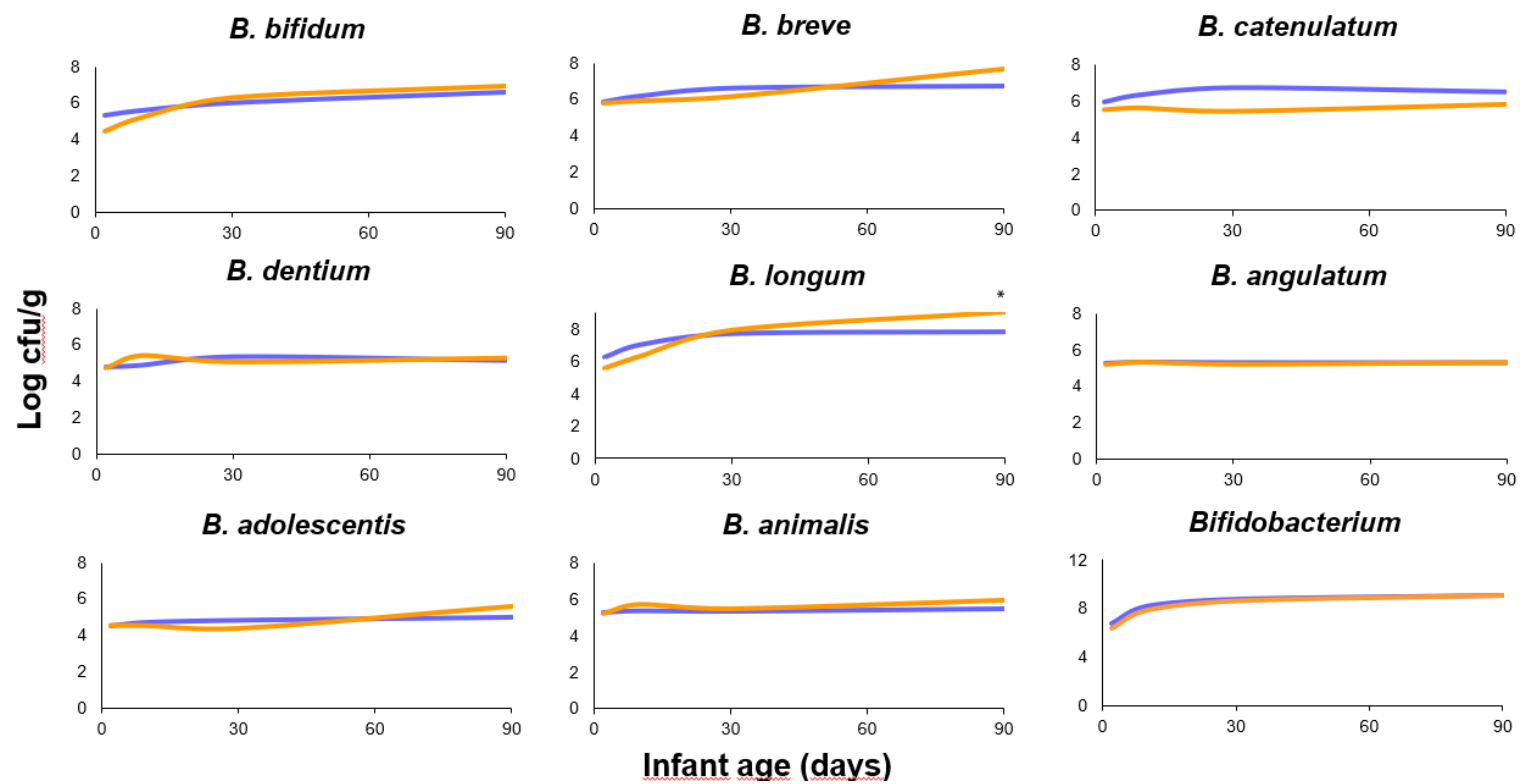
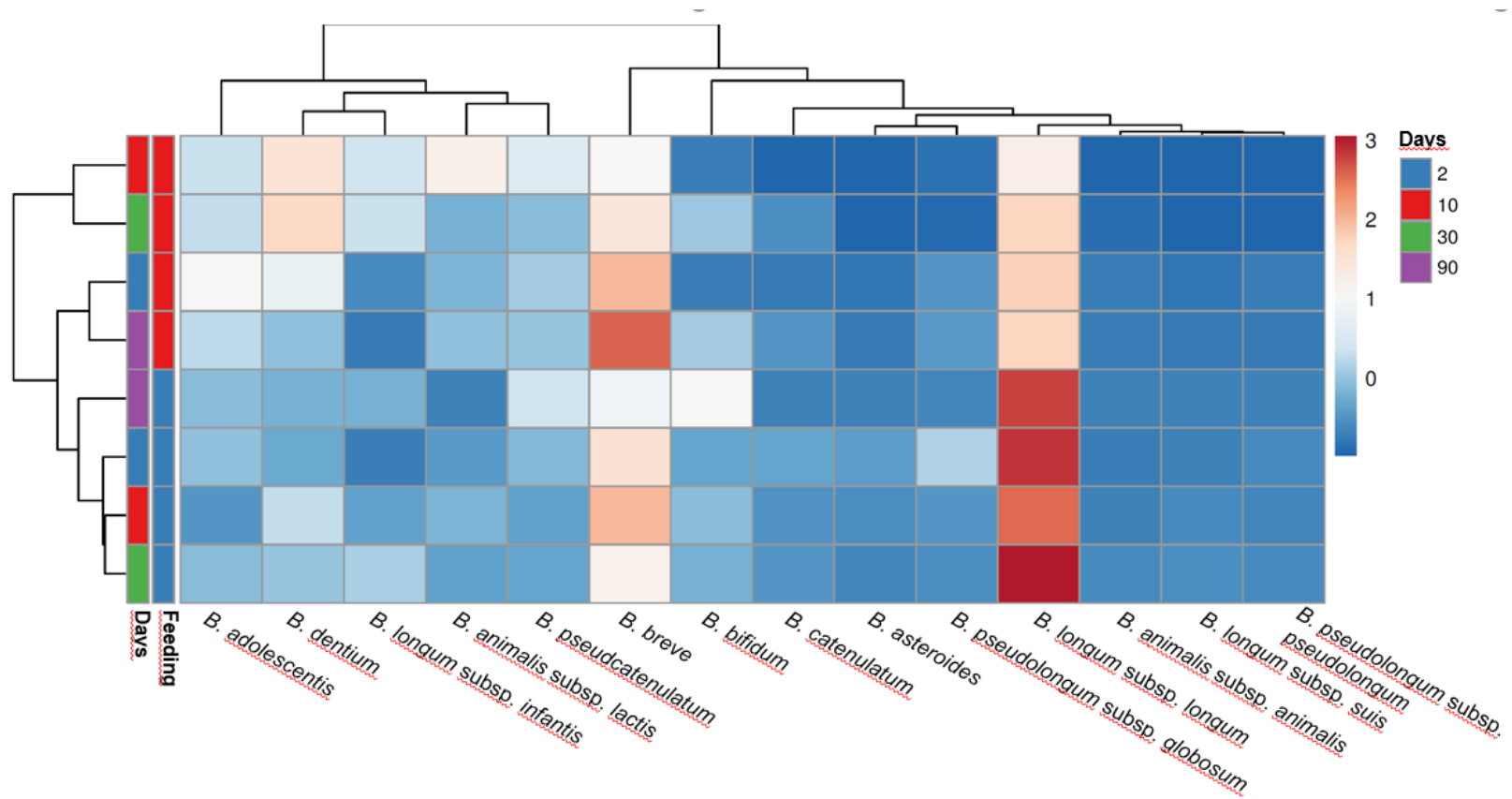


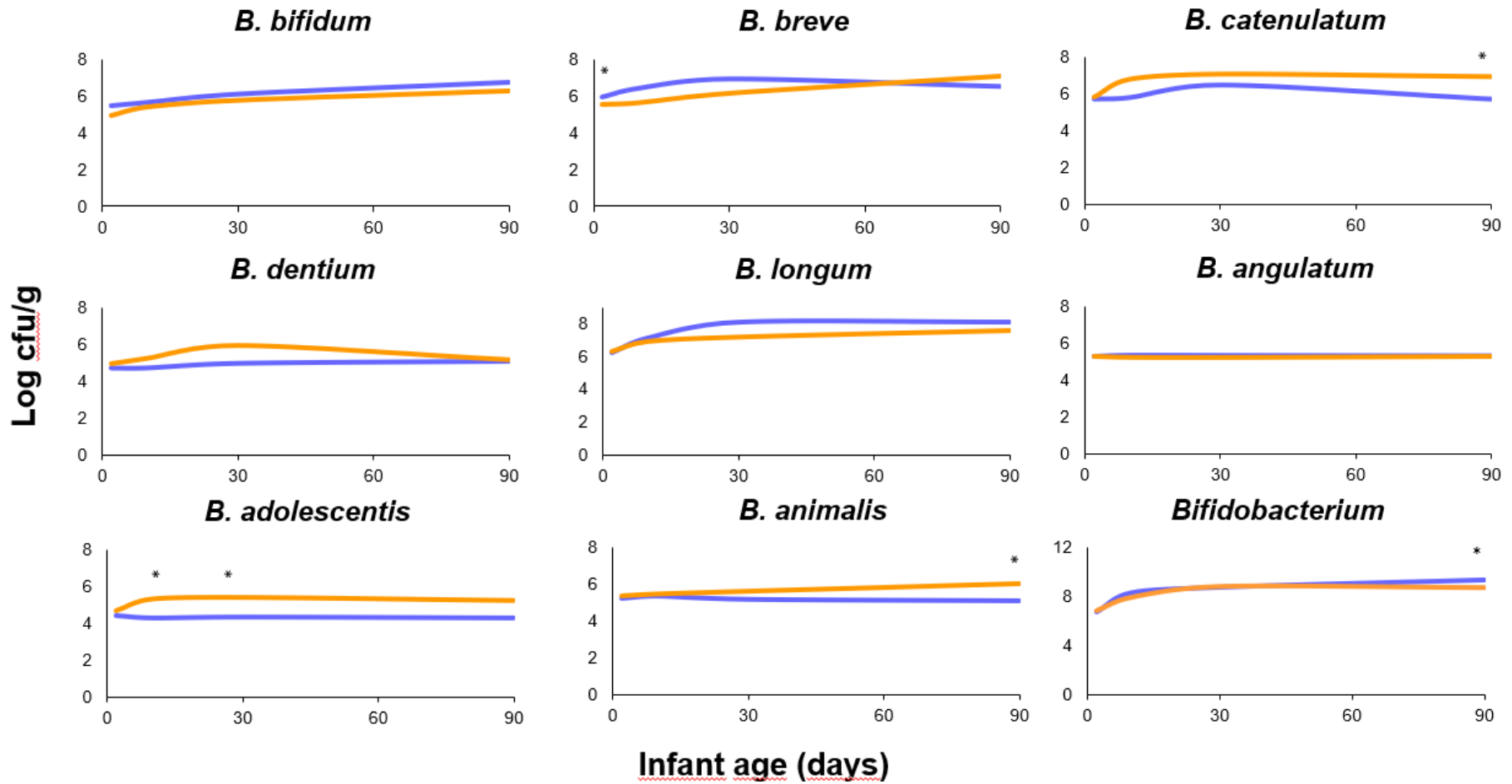
**Figure S1.** qPCR fecal levels (Log N° cells/gr) of the dominant Bifidobacterium species (*B. longum*, *B. bifidum*, *B. breve*, *B. catenulatum*, *B. dentium*, *B. adolescentis*, *B. animalis* subsp. *lactis*, *B. angulatum* and total *Bifidobacterium*) in full-term (blue line) and preterm babies (orange line) during the first three months of life. \* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001.



**Figure S2.** Fecal levels (Log N<sup>o</sup> cells/gr) of *B. longum*, *B. bifidum*, *B. breve*, *B. catenulatum*, *B. dentium*, *B. adolescentis*, *B. animalis* subsp. *lactis*, *B. angulatum* and total *Bifidobacterium* in vaginally delivered (blue line) and CS-delivered full-term babies (orange line) during the first three months of live. \* p<0.05.



**Figure S3.** Heat map showing the relative proportions of the different *Bifidobacterium* species/subspecies at 2, 10, 30 and 90 days of age in vaginally delivered full-term babies exclusively breast-fed (Feeding: blue) or received formula/mixed feeding (Feeding: red).



**Figure S4.** Fecal levels (Log N<sup>o</sup> cells/gr) of *B. longum*, *B. bifidum*, *B. breve*, *B. catenulatum*, *B. dentium*, *B. adolescentis*, *B. animalis* subsp. lactis, *B. angulatum* and total *Bifidobacterium* in vaginally delivered full-term babies being exclusively breastfed (blue line) or under formula/mix-feeding (orange line), during the first three months of life. \* p<0.05

**Table S1.** Occurrence of the different *Bifidobacterium* species/subspecies according to the ITS sequencing results (% of infants in which sequences from the specie/sub-specie were detected) at the different time points analyses (2, 10, 30 and 90 days of age) in the infant cohort included in this study.

	2 days	10 days	30 days	90 days
<i>B. adolescentis</i>	84.3	85.5	84.6	85.2
<i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>animalis</i>	38.6	48.2	35.9	39.3
<i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>lactis</i>	79.5	74.7	83.3	88.5
<i>B. anseris</i>	30.1	31.1	26.9	23.0
<i>B. asteroides</i>	42.2	41.0	44.9	44.3
<i>B. biavatii</i>	15.7	18.1	12.8	14.8
<i>B. bifidum</i>	78.3	79.5	82.1	83.6
<i>B. breve</i>	96.4	97.6	96.6	98.4
<i>B. catenulatum</i>	63.9	61.4	50	52.5
<i>B. choerinum</i>	25.3	25.3	21.5	19.7
<i>B. crudilactis</i>	31.3	34.9	33.3	31.1
<i>B. dentium</i>	73.5	73.5	71.8	78.7
<i>B. eulemuris</i>	20.5	14.5	7.7	6.6
<i>B. italicum</i>	22.9	30.1	21.8	23.0
<i>B. kashiwanohense</i>	42.2	39.8	37.2	41.0
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>infantis</i>	65.1	63.9	62.8	55.7
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>longum</i>	97.6	98.8	98.7	98.4
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>suis</i>	62.7	61.4	62.8	70.5
<i>B. longum</i> subspp	80.7	68.7	62.8	70.5
<i>B. magnum</i>	41.0	41.0	37.2	44.3
<i>B. mongoliense</i>	36.1	37.3	35.9	36.1
<i>B. parmae</i>	36.1	33.7	29.5	21.3
<i>B. pseudocatenulatum</i>	73.5	69.9	67.9	70.5
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp. <i>globosum</i>	66.3	71.1	73.1	72.1
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp. <i>pseudolongum</i>	57.8	50.6	60.3	55.7
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp	54.2	48.2	42.3	41.0
<i>B. reuteri</i>	28.9	24.1	29.5	37.7
<i>B. scardovii</i>	22.9	20.5	26.9	29.5
<i>B. stellenboschense</i>	22.0	14.5	15.4	11.5
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>porcinum</i>	24.1	31.3	20.5	19.7

<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>thermacidophilum</i>	25.3	24.1	23.1	23.0
<i>B. thermophilum</i>	36.1	38.6	33.3	36.1
<i>B. tissieri</i>	8.4	13.3	15.4	8.2
<i>B. tsurumiense</i>	19.3	11.8	15.4	14.8
<i>B. vansinderenii</i>	22.9	22.9	20.5	23.0
Others	63.9	59	61.5	59.0
Putative new bifidobacterial species	89.2	90.9	87.2	93.4

**Table S2.** Relative proportion (%) of the minority *Bifidobacterium* species in the faeces of full-term and preterm neonates at 2, 10, 30 and 90 days of age. ns: non statistically significant differences ( $p>0.05$ ).

		2 d		10 d		30 d		90 d	
		Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value
<i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>animalis</i>	TERM	0.265 $\pm$ 0.701	ns	0.028 $\pm$ 0.112	0.008	0.286 $\pm$ 1.569	ns	0.256 $\pm$ 1.203	ns
	PRETERM	0.060 $\pm$ 0.191		0.127 $\pm$ 0.370		0.053 $\pm$ 0.253		0.006 $\pm$ 0.013	
<i>B. anseris</i>	TERM	0.010 $\pm$ 0.067	0.000	0.006 $\pm$ 0.255	0.000	0.006 $\pm$ 0.255	0.000	0.001 $\pm$ 0.006	0.000
	PRETERM	0.350 $\pm$ 1.143		0.367 $\pm$ 0.718		0.015 $\pm$ 0.090		0.029 $\pm$ 0.051	
<i>B. biavatii</i>	TERM	0.001 $\pm$ 0.003	ns	0.003 $\pm$ 0.011	0.006	0.003 $\pm$ 0.011	ns	0.002 $\pm$ 0.009	ns
	PRETERM	0.025 $\pm$ 0.067		0.053 $\pm$ 0.152		0.082 $\pm$ 0.269		0.003 $\pm$ 0.009	
<i>B. choerinum</i>	TERM	0.004 $\pm$ 0.024	0.000	0.003 $\pm$ 0.020	0.000	0.001 $\pm$ 0.003	0.035	0.001 $\pm$ 0.002	0.007
	PRETERM	0.088 $\pm$ 0.230		0.101 $\pm$ 0.203		0.063 $\pm$ 0.194		0.012 $\pm$ 0.029	
<i>B. crudilactis</i>	TERM	0.147 $\pm$ 0.914	0.000	0.021 $\pm$ 0.093	0.000	0.000 $\pm$ 0.001	0.000	0.004 $\pm$ 0.017	0.000
	PRETERM	0.169 $\pm$ 0.230		0.294 $\pm$ 0.685		0.116 $\pm$ 0.177		0.071 $\pm$ 0.148	
<i>B. eulemuris</i>	TERM	0.056 $\pm$ 0.208	ns	0.013 $\pm$ 0.078	ns	0.034 $\pm$ 0.197	ns	0.000 $\pm$ 0.001	ns
	PRETERM	0.264 $\pm$ 0.978		0.219 $\pm$ 1.032		0.731 $\pm$ 4.506		0.001 $\pm$ 0.004	
<i>B. italicum</i>	TERM	0.002 $\pm$ 0.012	0.000	0.002 $\pm$ 0.009	0.000	0.000 $\pm$ 0.001	0.000	0.000 $\pm$ 0.001	0.000
	PRETERM	0.053 $\pm$ 0.094		0.912 $\pm$ 5.528		0.026 $\pm$ 0.052		0.366 $\pm$ 1.765	
<i>B. kashiwanohense</i>	TERM	0.502 $\pm$ 2.046	ns	0.059 $\pm$ 0.195	0.025	0.747 $\pm$ 4.335	ns	0.515 $\pm$ 2.726	ns
	PRETERM	0.048 $\pm$ 0.097		0.036 $\pm$ 0.085		0.018 $\pm$ 0.043		0.038 $\pm$ 0.108	
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>suis</i>	TERM	0.296 $\pm$ 1.447	0.000	0.480 $\pm$ 2.186	0.000	0.569 $\pm$ 2.944	0.001	0.105 $\pm$ 0.311	0.000
	PRETERM	1.671 $\pm$ 1.987		2.110 $\pm$ 3.372		1.517 $\pm$ 5.523		1.627 $\pm$ 5.897	
<i>B. longum</i> subspp	TERM	0.023 $\pm$ 0.032	0.028	0.037 $\pm$ 0.150	0.000	0.047 $\pm$ 0.201	ns	0.018 $\pm$ 0.034	0.047
	PRETERM	0.044 $\pm$ 0.061		0.037 $\pm$ 0.043		0.072 $\pm$ 0.280		0.109 $\pm$ 0.390	
<i>B. magnum</i>	TERM	0.002 $\pm$ 0.006	0.000	0.045 $\pm$ 0.262	0.000	0.002 $\pm$ 0.005	0.000	0.009 $\pm$ 0.032	0.002

	PRETERM	0.400 ± 0.534		0.305 ± 0.474		0.280 ± 0.555		0.117 ± 0.308	
<i>B. mongoliense</i>	TERM	0.015 ± 0.068	0.000	0.004 ± 0.019	0.000	0.054 ± 0.291	0.003	0.012 ± 0.063	0.001
	PRETERM	0.116 ± 0.208		0.118 ± 0.259		0.069 ± 0.112		0.042 ± 0.084	
<i>B. parvae</i>	TERM	1.197 ± 4.616	ns	0.058 ± 0.195	0.044	0.019 ± 0.066	0.032	0.001 ± 0.006	0.013
	PRETERM	0.434 ± 2.327		0.687 ± 3.847		0.489 ± 1.926		0.144 ± 0.359	
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp	TERM	0.613 ± 2.623	0.000	0.119 ± 0.653	0.000	0.002 ± 0.007	0.000	0.026 ± 0.117	0.001
	PRETERM	0.697 ± 1.318		1.333 ± 2.342		0.676 ± 1.490		0.463 ± 1.303	
<i>B. reuteri</i>	TERM	0.035 ± 0.143	0.038	0.047 ± 0.181	0.004	0.016 ± 0.080	ns	0.018 ± 0.071	0.004
	PRETERM	0.169 ± 0.332		0.070 ± 0.175		0.043 ± 0.127		0.036 ± 0.055	
<i>B. scardovii</i>	TERM	0.041 ± 0.180	ns	0.015 ± 0.061	ns	0.737 ± 4.633	ns	0.379 ± 2.223	ns
	PRETERM	0.041 ± 0.157		0.023 ± 0.096		0.024 ± 0.081		0.176 ± 0.857	
<i>B. stellenboschense</i>	TERM	0.032 ± 0.124	ns	0.007 ± 0.045	0.048	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns
	PRETERM	0.012 ± 0.041		0.581 ± 3.668		0.007 ± 0.023		0.002 ± 0.004	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>porcinum</i>	TERM	0.003 ± 0.020	0.000	0.001 ± 0.006	0.000	0.019 ± 0.117	0.000	0.001 ± 0.004	0.000
	PRETERM	0.114 ± 0.420		1.693 ± 9.863		0.120 ± 0.442		0.019 ± 0.045	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>thermacidophilum</i>	TERM	0.001 ± 0.002	0.000	0.010 ± 0.057	0.000	0.000 ± 0.001	0.000	0.001 ± 0.005	0.008
	PRETERM	0.225 ± 0.548		0.114 ± 0.217		0.117 ± 0.361		0.038 ± 0.147	
<i>B. thermophilum</i>	TERM	0.028 ± 0.126	0.000	0.012 ± 0.035	0.001	0.003 ± 0.009	0.005	0.007 ± 0.024	ns
	PRETERM	0.084 ± 0.146		0.071 ± 0.108		0.070 ± 0.168		0.042 ± 0.129	
<i>B. tissieri</i>	TERM	0.147 ± 0.940	0.045	0.000 ± 0.000	0.000	0.000 ± 0.000	0.001	0.000 ± 0.000	ns
	PRETERM	0.010 ± 0.030		0.011 ± 0.026		0.013 ± 0.034		0.038 ± 0.186	
<i>B. tsurumiense</i>	TERM	0.000 ± 0.001	0.002	0.001 ± 0.003	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	0.001	0.001 ± 0.002	ns
	PRETERM	0.013 ± 0.029		0.006 ± 0.021		0.884 ± 5.397		0.003 ± 0.006	
<i>B. vansinderenii</i>	TERM	0.022 ± 0.123	0.000	0.020 ± 0.100	0.009	0.000 ± 0.001	0.000	0.002 ± 0.008	0.000
	PRETERM	0.095 ± 0.148		0.110 ± 0.179		0.081 ± 0.137		0.105 ± 0.372	
Putative new bifidobac- terial species	TERM	2.058 ± 7.364	0.012	1.385 ± 4.180	0.001	4.393 ± 13.733	ns	3.434 ± 9.304	ns
	PRETERM	2.239 ± 2.177		2.875 ± 3.693		1.658 ± 2.168		1.137 ± 2.700	
Others	TERM	0.188 ± 0.413	0.001	0.240 ± 1.056	0.000	0.086 ± 0.330	0.004	0.074 ± 0.263	0.001
	PRETERM	0.839 ± 1.260		0.632 ± 1.027		0.483 ± 0.813		0.376 ± 0.618	

**Table S3.** Relative proportion (%) of the *Bifidobacterium* species in the faeces of vaginally delivered and Cs-delivered full-term neonates at 2, 10, 30 and 90 days of age. ns: non statistically significant differences (p>0.05).

		2 d		10 d		30 d		90 d	
		Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value
<b><i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>animalis</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.267 ± 0.693	ns	0.036 ± 0.126	ns	0.367 ± 1.781	ns	0.319 ± 1.342	ns
	C-SECTION	0.259 ± 0.772		0.001 ± 0.002		0.008 ± 0.017		0.003 ± 0.004	
<b><i>B. anseris</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.013 ± 0.075	ns	0.007 ± 0.029	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.001 ± 0.002	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.069 ± 0.189		0.005 ± 0.014	
<b><i>B. biavatii</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.001 ± 0.004	ns	0.003 ± 0.012	ns	0.003 ± 0.013	ns	0.002 ± 0.010	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000	
<b><i>B. choerinum</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.005 ± 0.027	ns	0.004 ± 0.023	ns	0.001 ± 0.004	ns	0.001 ± 0.003	ns
	C-SECTION	0.001 ± 0.002		0.001 ± 0.001		0.001 ± 0.001		0.000 ± 0.000	
<b><i>B. crudilactis</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.185 ± 1.028	ns	0.010 ± 0.039	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.005 ± 0.018	ns
	C-SECTION	0.002 ± 0.006		0.063 ± 0.189		0.001 ± 0.003		0.004 ± 0.009	
<b><i>B. eulemuris</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.051 ± 0.208	ns	0.017 ± 0.088	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns
	C-SECTION	0.074 ± 0.222		0.001 ± 0.002		0.149 ± 0.411		0.000 ± 0.001	
<b><i>B. italicum</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.002 ± 0.013	ns	0.003 ± 0.010	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000	
<b><i>B. kashiwanohense</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.635 ± 2.289	ns	0.054 ± 0.186	ns	0.946 ± 4.924	ns	0.642 ± 3.045	ns
	C-SECTION	0.003 ± 0.006		0.079 ± 0.236		0.060 ± 0.160		0.008 ± 0.014	
<b><i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>suis</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.369 ± 1.624	ns	0.473 ± 2.427	ns	0.678 ± 3.340	ns	0.129 ± 0.344	ns
	C-SECTION	0.022 ± 0.034		0.504 ± 0.964		0.191 ± 0.448		0.010 ± 0.025	
<b><i>B. longum</i> subspp</b>	VAGINAL	0.019 ± 0.028	ns	0.039 ± 0.168	ns	0.056 ± 0.228	ns	0.019 ± 0.038	ns
	C-SECTION	0.039 ± 0.041		0.027 ± 0.048		0.016 ± 0.025		0.013 ± 0.014	
<b><i>B. magnum</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.002 ± 0.005	ns	0.005 ± 0.026	ns	0.001 ± 0.002	ns	0.008 ± 0.034	ns
	C-SECTION	0.004 ± 0.009		0.189 ± 0.566		0.004 ± 0.010		0.010 ± 0.025	
<b><i>B. mongoliense</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.019 ± 0.077	ns	0.005 ± 0.021	ns	0.068 ± 0.330	ns	0.014 ± 0.070	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.003 ± 0.008		0.005 ± 0.011	
<b><i>B. parmae</i></b>	VAGINAL	1.219 ± 5.091	ns	0.073 ± 0.218	ns	0.020 ± 0.072	ns	0.002 ± 0.007	ns
	C-SECTION	1.115 ± 2.224		0.000 ± 0.000		0.014 ± 0.040		0.000 ± 0.001	
<b><i>B. pseudolongum</i> subspp</b>	VAGINAL	0.771 ± 2.938	ns	0.139 ± 0.737	ns	0.001 ± 0.003	ns	0.025 ± 0.125	ns
	C-SECTION	0.018 ± 0.053		0.045 ± 0.096		0.006 ± 0.013		0.031 ± 0.080	
<b><i>B. reuteri</i></b>	VAGINAL	0.043 ± 0.159	ns	0.028 ± 0.108	ns	0.019 ± 0.090	ns	0.020 ± 0.078	ns



	C-SECTION	0.003 ± 0.007		0.124 ± 0.350		0.008 ± 0.022		0.008 ± 0.020	
<i>B. scardovii</i>	VAGINAL	0.032 ± 0.171	ns	0.010 ± 0.049	ns	0.005 ± 0.019	ns	0.004 ± 0.010	ns
	C-SECTION	0.075 ± 0.220		0.031 ± 0.094		3.259 ± 9.768		1.879 ± 4.972	
<i>B. stellenboschense</i>	VAGINAL	0.040 ± 0.137	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.036 ± 0.100		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>porcinum</i>	VAGINAL	0.004 ± 0.023	ns	0.002 ± 0.006	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.001 ± 0.005	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.082 ± 0.246		0.000 ± 0.000	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>thermacidophilum</i>	VAGINAL	0.001 ± 0.002		0.013 ± 0.064		0.000 ± 0.001		0.002 ± 0.005	
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns
<i>B. thermophilum</i>	VAGINAL	0.035 ± 0.141	ns	0.006 ± 0.019	ns	0.003 ± 0.010	ns	0.008 ± 0.027	ns
	C-SECTION	0.001 ± 0.003		0.034 ± 0.065		0.002 ± 0.004		0.002 ± 0.003	
<i>B. tissieri</i>	VAGINAL	0.182 ± 1.048	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns
	C-SECTION	0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000	
<i>B. tsurumiense</i>	VAGINAL	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.001 ± 0.003	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.001 ± 0.003	ns
	C-SECTION	0.001 ± 0.003		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000		0.000 ± 0.000	
<i>B. vansinderenii</i>	VAGINAL	0.024 ± 0.137	ns	0.020 ± 0.110	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns	0.000 ± 0.002	ns
	C-SECTION	0.014 ± 0.040		0.018 ± 0.050		0.000 ± 0.000		0.007 ± 0.018	
Putative new bifidobacterial species	VAGINAL	2.415 ± 8.244	ns	1.515 ± 4.363	ns	5.544 ± 15.456	ns	4.230 ± 10.281	ns
	C-SECTION	0.710 ± 1.326		0.909 ± 1.800		0.430 ± 0.905		0.250 ± 0.357	
Others	VAGINAL	0.174 ± 0.371	ns	0.104 ± 0.335	ns	0.108 ± 0.373	ns	0.088 ± 0.293	ns
	C-SECTION	0.240 ± 0.568		0.740 ± 2.215		0.012 ± 0.025		0.015 ± 0.029	

**Table S4.** Relative proportion (%) of the *Bifidobacterium* species in the faeces of vaginally delivered and CS-delivered preterm neonates at 2, 10, 30 and 90 days of age. ns: non statistically significant differences (p>0.05).

		2 d		10 d		30 d		90 d	
		Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value	Mean ± SD	p-value
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>longum</i>	VAGINAL	25.330 ± 27.040	ns	24.160 ± 28.644	ns	15.880 ± 22.914	ns	11.200 ± 14.490	ns
	C-SECTION	26.820 ± 29.080		23.600 ± 28.724		11.900 ± 15.452		9.730 ± 13.380	
<i>B. breve</i>	VAGINAL	19.930 ± 9.808	ns	11.590 ± 10.033	ns	36.490 ± 31.858	ns	41.500 ± 28.200	ns
	C-SECTION	18.390 ± 21.720		21.420 ± 26.048		37.130 ± 37.192		53.600 ± 31.850	
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp. <i>globosum</i>	VAGINAL	10.190 ± 9.562	ns	16.490 ± 16.720	ns	13.500 ± 15.340	0.036	6.230 ± 9.879	ns
	C-SECTION	10.960 ± 12.150		10.480 ± 13.250		5.143 ± 7.870		2.120 ± 3.434	
<i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>lactis</i>	VAGINAL	8.367 ± 5.717	ns	6.273 ± 6.165	ns	2.918 ± 3.544	ns	3.790 ± 5.644	ns
	C-SECTION	10.500 ± 9.995		9.493 ± 16.703		3.691 ± 4.722		3.920 ± 8.229	
<i>B. asteroides</i>	VAGINAL	5.363 ± 6.792	0.019	5.448 ± 11.418	ns	2.784 ± 3.856	0.029	2.760 ± 4.442	ns
	C-SECTION	1.761 ± 3.343		3.574 ± 7.113		1.735 ± 5.373		1.830 ± 3.954	
<i>B. bifidum</i>	VAGINAL	4.535 ± 4.882	0.005	2.791 ± 4.613	ns	2.425 ± 4.166	ns	1.160 ± 1.045	ns
	C-SECTION	1.614 ± 2.905		2.730 ± 3.900		3.935 ± 7.293		2.780 ± 5.434	
<i>B. adolescentis</i>	VAGINAL	4.418 ± 3.897	ns	4.663 ± 5.907	ns	2.309 ± 4.030	ns	0.449 ± 0.500	ns
	C-SECTION	10.650 ± 17.440		8.523 ± 13.085		7.069 ± 13.314		5.450 ± 14.600	
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp. <i>pseudolongum</i>	VAGINAL	4.122 ± 4.523	ns	5.327 ± 5.404	ns	3.885 ± 6.055	ns	0.972 ± 1.171	ns
	C-SECTION	5.083 ± 7.500		3.158 ± 4.272		1.841 ± 4.315		0.756 ± 1.266	
<i>B. dentium</i>	VAGINAL	3.902 ± 11.140	ns	6.130 ± 21.689	ns	5.296 ± 11.309	ns	15.200 ± 31.590	ns
	C-SECTION	4.047 ± 10.890		2.402 ± 6.040		10.510 ± 26.145		4.600 ± 17.050	
<i>B. pseudocatenulatum</i>	VAGINAL	3.102 ± 9.282	ns	3.503 ± 12.752	ns	7.007 ± 23.518	ns	10.200 ± 20.290	ns
	C-SECTION	2.059 ± 5.273		0.384 ± 0.574		0.603 ± 1.077		5.180 ± 13.180	
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>suis</i>	VAGINAL	1.404 ± 1.085	ns	1.677 ± 3.580	ns	0.421 ± 0.469	ns	0.705 ± 1.492	ns
	C-SECTION	1.868 ± 2.459		2.417 ± 3.258		2.314 ± 7.211		2.200 ± 7.463	
<i>B. pseudolongum</i> subsp.	VAGINAL	0.904 ± 1.728	ns	1.428 ± 2.250	ns	0.981 ± 1.729	ns	0.756 ± 1.902	ns
	C-SECTION	0.543 ± 0.922		1.266 ± 2.450		0.455 ± 1.286		0.280 ± 0.751	
<i>B. longum</i> subsp. <i>infantis</i>	VAGINAL	0.668 ± 1.288	ns	0.508 ± 1.151	ns	0.222 ± 0.693	ns	0.059 ± 0.139	ns
	C-SECTION	0.576 ± 1.102		0.340 ± 0.617		7.653 ± 23.550		5.820 ± 16.170	
<i>B. magnum</i>	VAGINAL	0.654 ± 0.600	0.005	0.266 ± 0.372	ns	0.297 ± 0.545	ns	0.073 ± 0.070	ns
	C-SECTION	0.212 ± 0.397		0.333 ± 0.541		0.267 ± 0.575		0.144 ± 0.391	
<i>B. catenulatum</i>	VAGINAL	0.428 ± 0.452	ns	1.092 ± 2.349	ns	0.120 ± 0.148	ns	0.118 ± 0.307	ns

	C-SECTION	0.299 ± 0.444	—	0.404 ± 0.755		0.106 ± 0.213		0.101 ± 0.230	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> subsp. <i>thermacidophilum</i>	VAGINAL	0.408 ± 0.764		0.112 ± 0.246		0.149 ± 0.526		0.018 ± 0.023	
	C-SECTION	0.090 ± 0.251	ns	0.114 ± 0.200	ns	0.093 ± 0.174	ns	0.050 ± 0.188	ns
<i>B. reuteri</i>	VAGINAL	0.284 ± 0.433		0.103 ± 0.226		0.094 ± 0.186		0.045 ± 0.050	
	C-SECTION	0.085 ± 0.204	ns	0.046 ± 0.127	0.050	0.006 ± 0.021	0.024	0.030 ± 0.055	ns
<i>B. crudilactis</i>	VAGINAL	0.228 ± 0.273		0.191 ± 0.234		0.182 ± 0.216		0.105 ± 0.198	
	C-SECTION	0.125 ± 0.187	ns	0.368 ± 0.875	ns	0.069 ± 0.127	0.031	0.050 ± 0.108	ns
<i>B. mongoliense</i>	VAGINAL	0.215 ± 0.283		0.191 ± 0.382		0.068 ± 0.098		0.042 ± 0.055	
	C-SECTION	0.043 ± 0.074	0.006	0.067 ± 0.091	ns	0.070 ± 0.123	ns	0.042 ± 0.100	ns
<i>B. thermophilum</i>	VAGINAL	0.127 ± 0.159		0.048 ± 0.070		0.077 ± 0.171		0.081 ± 0.195	
	C-SECTION	0.051 ± 0.130	ns	0.086 ± 0.127	ns	0.064 ± 0.169	ns	0.017 ± 0.057	ns
<i>B. anseris</i>	VAGINAL	0.122 ± 0.136		0.516 ± 0.928		0.067 ± 0.073		0.066 ± 0.067	
	C-SECTION	0.519 ± 1.494	ns	0.262 ± 0.521	ns	0.566 ± 1.728	ns	0.006 ± 0.010	0.012
<i>B. vansinderenii</i>	VAGINAL	0.114 ± 0.151		0.139 ± 0.173		0.083 ± 0.971		0.243 ± 0.589	
	C-SECTION	0.081 ± 0.147	ns	0.089 ± 0.184	ns	0.079 ± 0.162	ns	0.019 ± 0.035	ns
<i>B. scardovii</i>	VAGINAL	0.095 ± 0.234		0.046 ± 0.147		0.025 ± 0.085		0.444 ± 1.382	
	C-SECTION	0.002 ± 0.005	ns	0.008 ± 0.020	ns	0.022 ± 0.080	ns	0.008 ± 0.026	ns
<i>B. kashiwanohense</i>	VAGINAL	0.089 ± 0.131		0.030 ± 0.054		0.033 ± 0.061		0.044 ± 0.104	
	C-SECTION	0.018 ± 0.045	ns	0.040 ± 0.103	ns	0.008 ± 0.017	ns	0.034 ± 0.113	ns
<i>B. eulemuris</i>	VAGINAL	0.064 ± 0.201		0.386 ± 1.558		1.736 ± 6.944		0.002 ± 0.007	
	C-SECTION	0.412 ± 1.270	ns	0.101 ± 0.358	ns	0.000 ± 0.000	ns	0.000 ± 0.001	ns
<i>B. parmae</i>	VAGINAL	0.059 ± 0.103		0.096 ± 0.290		0.053 ± 0.194		0.010 ± 0.022	
	C-SECTION	0.711 ± 3.066	ns	1.105 ± 5.024	ns	0.806 ± 2.501	ns	0.227 ± 0.442	ns
<i>B. italicum</i>	VAGINAL	0.044 ± 0.108		0.057 ± 0.080		0.015 ± 0.024		0.933 ± 2.842	
	C-SECTION	0.060 ± 0.084	ns	1.517 ± 7.227	ns	0.034 ± 0.065	ns	0.011 ± 0.029	ns
<i>B. choerinum</i>	VAGINAL	0.042 ± 0.128		0.098 ± 0.183		0.029 ± 0.068		0.010 ± 0.022	
	C-SECTION	0.122 ± 0.282	ns	0.103 ± 0.220	ns	0.088 ± 0.248	ns	0.013 ± 0.033	ns
<i>B. animalis</i> subsp. <i>animalis</i>	VAGINAL	0.041 ± 0.066		0.090 ± 0.230		0.010 ± 0.020		0.007 ± 0.011	
	C-SECTION	0.074 ± 0.247	ns	0.154 ± 0.446	ns	0.084 ± 0.332	ns	0.005 ± 0.015	ns
<i>B. biavatii</i>	VAGINAL	0.041 ± 0.093		0.058 ± 0.184		0.036 ± 0.136		0.006 ± 0.014	
	C-SECTION	0.013 ± 0.036	ns	0.050 ± 0.128	ns	0.115 ± 0.333	ns	0.001 ± 0.004	ns
<i>B. longum</i> subspp	VAGINAL	0.035 ± 0.033	ns	0.037 ± 0.041	ns	0.021 ± 0.031	ns	0.024 ± 0.027	ns

	C-SECTION	0.050 ± 0.076		0.038 ± 0.045		0.109 ± 0.366		0.161 ± 0.495	
<i>B. stellenboschense</i>	VAGINAL	0.018 ± 0.056	ns	1.390 ± 5.696	ns	0.011 ± 0.033	ns	0.003 ± 0.005	ns
	C-SECTION	0.007 ± 0.026		0.009 ± 0.029		0.005 ± 0.012		0.001 ± 0.003	
<i>B. thermacidophilum</i> <b>subsp. porcinum</b>	VAGINAL	0.029 ± 0.055	ns	0.218 ± 0.445	ns	0.032 ± 0.049	ns	0.012 ± 0.016	ns
	C-SECTION	0.177 ± 0.548		2.738 ± 12.896		0.184 ± 0.577		0.023 ± 0.057	
<i>B. tsurumiense</i>	VAGINAL	0.027 ± 0.040	0.034	0.004 ± 0.010	ns	0.014 ± 0.035	ns	0.005 ± 0.007	ns
	C-SECTION	0.003 ± 0.007		0.008 ± 0.027		1.516 ± 7.094		0.001 ± 0.005	
<i>B. tissieri</i>	VAGINAL	0.009 ± 0.036	ns	0.010 ± 0.025	ns	0.002 ± 0.005	ns	0.001 ± 0.004	ns
	C-SECTION	0.011 ± 0.025		0.012 ± 0.027		0.021 ± 0.043		0.061 ± 0.238	
<b>Putative new bifido- bacterial species</b>	VAGINAL	3.646 ± 2.115	0.001	4.104 ± 4.871	ns	2.088 ± 2.639	ns	2.120 ± 4.125	ns
	C-SECTION	1.335 ± 1.772		2.005 ± 2.302		1.346 ± 1.751		0.523 ± 0.949	
<b>Others</b>	VAGINAL	1.121 ± 1.146	ns	0.732 ± 0.991	ns	0.649 ± 0.988	ns	0.564 ± 0.659	ns
	C-SECTION	0.631 ± 1.325		0.561 ± 1.068		0.363 ± 0.657		0.259 ± 0.581	