

Strains	Genotype/relevant properties	AB- res	Source/reference
DH5 α	F ⁻ <i>endA1 recA1 gyrA96 thi-1 hsdR17 supE44 relA1</i> Δ (<i>argF- lacZYA</i>) U169 Φ 80d <i>lacZ DM15 gyrA96</i>	Nx	Sambrook et al., 1989
LN2666	F ⁻ W1485 <i>thiA thyA leu deoB rpsL</i>	Sm	[38]
BW27783	BW25113 DE(<i>araFGH</i>) F(Δ <i>araEp P</i> _{CP8} - <i>araE</i>)	Rif	[39]
DY380	DH10B derivative containing a defective λ prophage; <i>red</i> , <i>bet</i> and <i>gam</i> genes are controlled by the temperature-sensitive λ cI857 repressor	Sm	Lee et al., 2001
C41 (DE3)	F ⁻ <i>ompT dcm hsdS</i> (r _B . m _B .) <i>gal</i> λ (DE3)		Miroux and Walker, 1996
Plasmids			
R388	R388 <i>parS1-Cm</i>	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 <i>parS2-Cm</i>	R388 <i>parS2-Cm</i>	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ <i>stbA</i>	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>stbA</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ <i>stbB</i>	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>stbB</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ <i>stbC</i>	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>stbC</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ <i>stbABC</i>	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>stbABC</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ (<i>it-stbABC</i>)	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>it-stbABC</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
R388 Δ (<i>it-kfrA</i>)	R388 <i>parS-Cm</i> Δ (<i>it-kfrA</i>)	Tmp,Cm	This study
pAPT110	Used to amplify the Km resistance gene (p15A), empty vector (V) for conjugation and plasmid stability assays)	Km, Sp/Sm	Polard and Chanlder, 1995
pStbA	pAPT110 derivative expressing <i>stbA</i> from <i>Plac</i> promoter	Sp/Sm	This study
pStbB	pAPT110 derivative expressing <i>stbB</i> from <i>Plac</i> promoter	Sp/Sm	This study
pET-StbA	pET29C (Novagen) derivative expressing <i>stbA</i>	Km	This study
pALA2705	<i>GFP-ΔN30parB</i> expressing from <i>Plac</i> promoter	Ap	[21]
pGBKD3- <i>parS</i>	contains the <i>parS</i> sequence from the P1 bacteriophage adjacent to the Cm resistance gene	Cm	Espeli et al.,2008

Table S1. Bacterial strains and plasmids.