**Table S2.** RT-PCR analysis of usher genes expression in the $\Delta mrkC$ mutant. Results are expressed in fold change expression (±SD) in the $\Delta mrkC$ mutant compared to the wild-type strain. Expression levels were compared by nonparametric one-way ANOVA; p > 0.05 (ANOVA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>target genes</th>
<th>fold expression (±SD) compared to the wild-type strain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$kpaC$</td>
<td>1.6 ± 0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$kpbC$</td>
<td>2.3 ± 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$kpdC$</td>
<td>2.1 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$kpeC$</td>
<td>1.8 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$kpgC$</td>
<td>1.3 ± 0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$kpjC$</td>
<td>1.9 ± 0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$fimC$</td>
<td>1.5 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>