

| | PGPB isolates | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| | <i>S. maltophilia</i> CT12 (KR818058) | <i>S. maltophilia</i> CT13 (KR818059) | <i>S. maltophilia</i> CT16 (KR818060) | <i>P. geniculata</i> CT19 (KR818061) | <i>B.</i> <i>amyloliquefaciens</i> CT32 (KR818062) | <i>B. subtilis</i> subsp. <i>inaquosorum</i> CT43 (KR818063) | <i>B.</i> <i>licheniformis</i> SV4 (KR818064) | <i>B. subtilis</i> SV5 (KR818065) |
| Pectinase activity (U ^x ml ⁻¹) / Duration of incubation (h) ^a | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 0.17 ± 0.1 | 0.66 ± 0.2 | 3.59 ± 0.08 | 0.79 ± 0.4 | 0.9 ± 0 | 12.63 ± 0.1 | 1.5 ± 0.01 | 9.73 ± 0.1 |
| 48 | 0.96 ± 0 | 16.35 ± 5.3 | 0.88 ± 0.3 | 2.75 ± 0.6 | 0.44 ± 0.1 | 2.58 ± 0.1 | 1.67 ± 0.4 | 6.02 ± 0.7 |
| 72 | 7.32 ± 3.5 | 0.84 ± 0 | 0.95 ± 0.02 | 13.8 ± 0.5 | 1.56 ± 0.2 | 1.1 ± 0.1 | 1.19 ± 0.2 | 3.58 ± 0.03 |
| IAA production (µg ml ⁻¹) / Duration of incubation (h) ^b | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 0 | 0.41 ± 0.001 | 0.79 ± 0.008 | 0 | 2.49 ± 0.009 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 48 | 22.17 ± 0.05 | 26.9 ± 0.04 | 10.25 ± 0.01 | 20.32 ± 0.06 | 16.82 ± 0.02 | 20.81 ± 0.06 | 30.99 ± 0.01 | 13.37 ± 0.08 |
| Phosphatase activity zone (mm) ^c | 0 | 10.33 ± 0.01 | 11.83 ± 0.1 | 0 | 0 | 16.83 ± 0.1 | 16.5 ± 0.1 | 0 |

Supplementary table 6: Pectinolytic activity, IAA production and phosphatase activity expressed by plant growth-promoting bacterial (PGPB) isolates recovered from healthy tomato plants.

^a Noted after 24, 48 and 72 h of incubation in minimum medium supplemented with pectin (1 % v v⁻¹) at 28 ± 2 °C. ^x Specific activity (U = 1 unit of pectinase) was defined as the amount of the enzyme that released 1 µmol of polygalacturonic acid per mg of protein per min.

^bNoted after 48 h of incubation in LB medium supplemented with L-tryptophan (50 µg ml⁻¹) (w v⁻¹) in the dark at 28 ± 2 °C.

^cNoted after 7 days of incubation in Pikovskaya agar medium at 28 ± 2 °C.