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Complete genome of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10, a psychrotolerant biofertilizer that could promote plant growth

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Highlights

- *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10 is a psychrotolerant bacterium.
- This is the first complete genome of *Pseudomonas* sp..
- Various genes coding for potentially plant promoting properties were identified
- Functional annotation revealed an indole acetic acid (IAA)-producing attribute

Abstract

Pseudomonas sp. strain L10.10 (=DSM 101070) is a psychrotolerant bacterium which was isolated from Lagoon Island, Antarctica. Analysis of its complete genome sequence indicates its possible role as a plant-growth promoting bacterium, including nitrogen-fixing ability and indole acetic acid (IAA)-producing trait, with additional suggestion of plant disease prevention attributes *via* hydrogen cyanide production.

Keywords: Plant disease control, nitrogen fixing, indole acetic acid, hydrogen cyanide, plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria

Plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) are of significant agricultural importance and biotechnological value due to their plant growth-promoting activity under stressful and nutrient limiting conditions (Nabti et al., 2010). *Pseudomonads* are well known PGPRs which are associated directly with plant growth promotion by the production of indole acetic acid (IAA) and involvement in nitrogen fixation activity (Zhao, 2010; Santi et al., 2013). In addition, *Pseudomonads* also confer indirect promotion of plant growth through production of hydrogen cyanide (HCN), which aids in prevention of plant diseases caused by phytopathogens (Schippers et al., 1990). Previously, we have isolated a psychrotolerant bacterium namely *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10 from Antarctica. Psychrotolerant PGPRs are important in improving cold stress tolerance of important agricultural crops such as grapevine plantlets (Ait Barka et al., 2006). Hence, we investigated the genomic features of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10 in order to determine if this psychrotolerant strain has the relevant PGP genotype.

Genomic DNA of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10 was isolated from an overnight cell suspension culture using the MasterPure[™] Gram positive DNA purification kit (Epicentre Technologies). Subsequently, the genomics DNA was constructed into a 20-kb SMRTbell template library. Pacific Biosciences (PacBio) RSII sequencing platform was used to perform whole genome sequencing using C4 chemistry in two single molecule real time (SMRT) cells (Ee et al., 2015, Lim et al., 2015). A total of 16,782 reads with a mean read length of 11,629 bp were generated. The reads were *de novo* assembled using hierarchical genome assembly process (HGAP) algorithm version 3 into a circular contig with an average genome coverage of 34.96-fold (Goh et al., 2015).

Genome annotation was then performed using NCBI Prokaryotic Genome Annotation Pipeline (PGAP) version 2.10 and Rapid Annotation using Subsystem Technology (RAST) version 3.0 (Aziz et al., 2008, Overbeek et al., 2014, Brettin et al., 2015, Xia et al., 2015). The genome of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10 consists of a 5,172,488 bp circular chromosome

with G+C content of 58.2%. A total of 3514 protein coding genes were predicted along with 25 rRNA and 68 tRNA genes (Table 1).

Functional annotation of the genome revealed the presence of genes responsible for the two major pathways of bacterial ammonia assimilation, namely the glutamate dehydrogenase (GDH) pathway (glutamate dehydrogenase [AOC04_00325]) and the glutamine synthetase (GS)-glutamate synthase (GOGAT) pathway (glutamine synthetase [AOC04_04085] and glutamate synthase [AOC04_01625]). In addition, a complete hydrogen cyanide synthase gene cluster [AOC04_10125, AOC04_10135, AOC04_10140] whose products catalyze the synthesis of hydrogen cyanide were identified. Furthermore, we detected the presence of various genes which contribute to IAA biosynthesis, including Indole-3-glycerol phosphate synthase [AOC04_22470], *N*-(5'-phosphoribosyl) anthranilate isomerase [AOC04_10045] and anthranilate phosphoribosyltransferase [AOC04_22465] within the genome of this strain.

Our genome analysis revealed presence of various PGPR traits in strain L10.10 including nitrogen fixation, hydrogen cyanide production, and phytohormone IAA biosynthesis, which highlight its potential as a promising PGPR. These beneficial traits also indicate the potential application of strain L10.10 in the development of eco-friendly biofertilizers which can assist in promoting soil fertility and crop yield.

Nucleotide sequence accession number

The complete chromosome sequence has been deposited in GenBank under the accession number CP012676

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Table 1: Genome features of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain L10.10.

Attributes	Value
Genome size (bp)	5,172,488
Pseudogene	120
G+C content (%)	58.2
Total number of genes	4,639
Protein coding genes	4,425
Contigs	1
rRNA genes	25
tRNA genes	68