

Review Article

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**A Review on Identification of *Bacillus* spp. using Molecular Characterization**

**Tamalika Sarangi\* and S. Ramakrishnan**

Department of Nematology, Centre for Plant Protection Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore – 641003, Tamil Nadu, India

\*Corresponding author

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Nowadays the use of molecular tool is gaining importance for the proper and precise identification of any biological organisms. The technique is successfully adopted for the precise identification of *Bacillus* spp. The available literature on identification of *Bacillus* spp. at molecular level were collected and presented below. The review will be useful to the researchers working on this line as the identification of *Bacillus* spp. using morphological and cultural characters, biochemical tests etc. are time consuming, cumbersome and lacks precision.

**Introduction**

The endophytic bacteria, *Bacillus* spp. are generally classified based on their morphology and aggregation. The shape of the endophytic *Bacillus* spp. are spheres (coccus), rod shaped and round ended cylinders according to Wang *et al.*, (2008). Further the *Bacillus* spp. showing the cultural characters of colonization of bacteria on nutrient agar medium and serrated margin also used to identify the bacteria. (Hung and Annapurna, 2004 and Parvathi *et al.*, 2004). Besides biochemical tests of employing the methods of simple staining, gram staining, utilization of citrate, catalase test, vogos proskaecur test, growth in Nacl, starch hydrolysis, methyl red test,

growth at 4<sup>0</sup>C and KOH test are also in practise to identify the bacteria as *Bacillus* spp. (Rangasamy and Bagyaraj, 1993, Vetrivelkalai *et al.*, 2010 and Manikandan and Muthuselvan, 2014).

**Molecular Characterization of Genus *Bacillus***

For the precise identification of the endophytic genus various morphological, cultural and biochemical tests were performed as above. Since it is difficult to confirm the identity of the endophytes based on only morphological and biochemical characters as opined by Frietas *et al.*, (2008),

currently molecular techniques like t DNA PCR (tDNA-intergenic spacer length polymorphisms) and ITS-PCR analyses (16S–23S intergenic transcribed spacer region) are being used for the precise identification of the *Bacillus* endophytes.

Hence the information furnished on the identification of *Bacillus* spp. based on molecular characters in the Table will be useful as ready reference to researchers working on isolation and identification of the bacterium.

**Table.1** Identification of *Bacillus* spp. using PCR technique

<b><i>Bacillus</i> spp.</b>	<b>References</b>
<i>Bacillus</i> spp.	Raton <i>et al.</i> , (2012), Sihem <i>et al.</i> , (2011), Absalon <i>et al.</i> , (2012), Ettoumi <i>et al.</i> , (2013)
<i>B.amyloliquefaciens</i>	Wulff <i>et al.</i> , (2002), Matarante <i>et al.</i> , (2004), Lisboa <i>et al.</i> , (2006), Sarangi <i>et al.</i> (2009), Athukorala <i>et al.</i> ( 2009)
<i>B. anthracis</i>	Hill <i>et al.</i> (2004)
<i>B.cereus</i>	Matarante <i>et al.</i> (2004), Hill <i>et al.</i> (2004), Nagesh <i>et al.</i> (2005), Azokpota <i>et al.</i> (2007), Kang Cheng <i>et al.</i> (2009), Reddy <i>et al.</i> (2009), Wahyudi <i>et al.</i> (2010), Oliveira <i>et al.</i> (2014)
<i>B. firmus</i>	Ettoumi <i>et al.</i> (2013)
<i>B. fusiformis</i>	Wahyudi <i>et al.</i> (2010)
<i>B. licheniformis</i>	Tendulkar <i>et al.</i> (2006), Gomaa and Momtaz.(2006), Azokpota <i>et al.</i> (2007), Xio <i>et al.</i> (2009), Ettoumi <i>et al.</i> ,(2013)
<i>B. mojavensis</i>	Sihem <i>et al.</i> ,(2011), Youcef-ali <i>et al.</i> ,(2014)
<i>B. mycoides</i>	Athukorala <i>et al.</i> ,(2009), Sarangi <i>et al.</i> , (2009)
<i>B. pumilus</i>	Wulff <i>et al.</i> , (2002), Matarante <i>et al.</i> ,(2004), Parvathi <i>et al.</i> , (2009), Ettoumi <i>et al.</i> , (2013), Moghaddam <i>et al.</i> ,(2014)
<i>B. simplex</i>	Gomaa and Momtaz. (2006)
<i>B. subtilis</i>	Wulff <i>et al.</i> , (2002), Matarante <i>et al.</i> , ( 2004), Azokpota <i>et al.</i> ,(2007), Kang Cheng <i>et al.</i> , (2009), Athukorala <i>et al.</i> ,(2009), Sarangi <i>et al.</i> , (2009), Wahyudi <i>et al.</i> , (2010), Xia <i>et al.</i> , (2011), Sihem <i>et al.</i> , (2011), Ettoumi <i>et al.</i> ,(2013), Yap Chin Ann.(2013), Youcef-ali <i>et al.</i> ,(2014), Oliveira <i>et al.</i> ,(2014), Wei <i>et al.</i> , (2014)
<i>B. thuringiensis</i>	Hill <i>et al.</i> , (2004), Reddy <i>et al.</i> ,(2009), Yap Chin Ann. (2013), Zahner <i>et al.</i> , (2013)
<i>B.weihenstephanensis</i>	Biswas and Das.(2011)
<i>B.subtilis</i>	Tamalika Sarangi (2014)

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