

Exploring the Potential of Four Novel Halotolerant Bacterial Strains as Plant-Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) under Saline Conditions

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Supplementary Materials

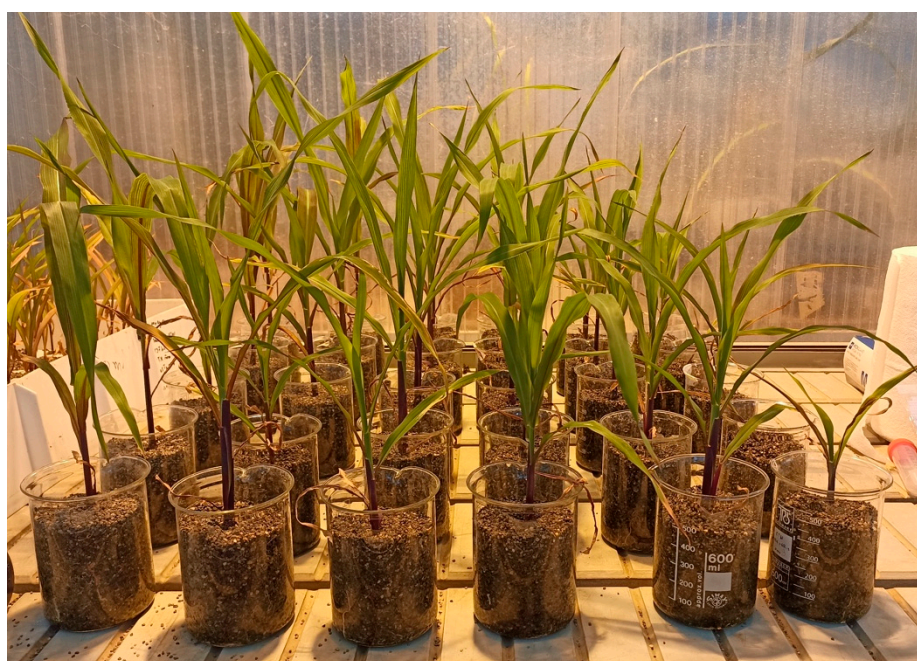


Figure S1. Phytotoxicity experiment with *Zea mays* L. cv. DDK 7730. Plants (5 replicates) were exposed to various concentrations of NaCl, cultivated in a greenhouse with a photoperiod of 16 h of light and 8 h of dark and at constant temperature of 21 °C. The picture was taken one month before the harvesting. At the end of the experiment, all seedlings treated with NaCl 100 mM were dead. The effects of NaCl concentrations (control, 15, 35, 55, 75, 100 mM) on maize seedlings are shown from left to right.

Two weeks after the last addition of NaCl, seedlings were removed from pots and separated in epigeal organs (leaves + stem) and roots. Then, the biomass was dried in an oven at a temperature of 70 °C, up to a constant weight.

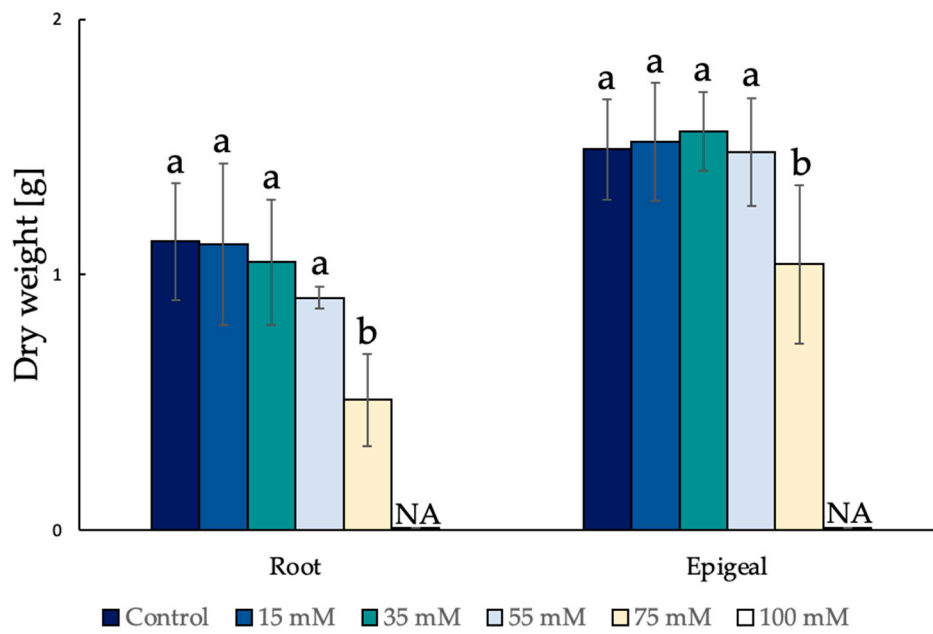


Figure S2. Biomass dry weight of *Zea mays* L. at the end of the experiment (Figure S1). Values are the means of 5 replicates. Letters indicate statistical significance. NA = “not available” because the seedlings were dead. The colors indicate different NaCl concentrations.

Table S1. PCR conditions.

Step	Temperature	Time	Cycles
Initial denaturation	95 °C	3 min.	
Denaturation	95 °C	1 min.	x 35 cycles
Annealing	55 °C	1 min.	
Elongation	72 °C	2 min.	
Final elongation	72 °C	5 min.	

Table S2. 16S rDNA sequence length of isolated strains.

Isolated strains	16s rDNA sequence length
<i>Halomonas</i> sp. QH23	1374
<i>Halomonas</i> sp. QH24	1218
<i>Bacillus</i> sp. M21	1189
<i>Bacillus</i> sp. M23	1398