

**Table S1.** The PCR protocol and reagents used in bacterial analysis of ewe's milk lump cheeses.

Reagents (μl)	Volume (μl)
Q5 High-Fidelity 2X Master Mix	15
Water	9
Forward primer	1.5
Reverse primer	1.5
DNA	3

Isolated DNA was used as a template in PCR reaction targeting the hypervariable V4 region of the bacterial 16S rRNA gene (16S Metagenomic sequencing Library Preparation protocol, Illumina, USA). The PCR detection protocol was as follows: 98°C (30 seconds); 98°C (10 seconds), 55°C (15 seconds), 72°C (25 seconds), 30 cycles; 72°C (2 minutes).