

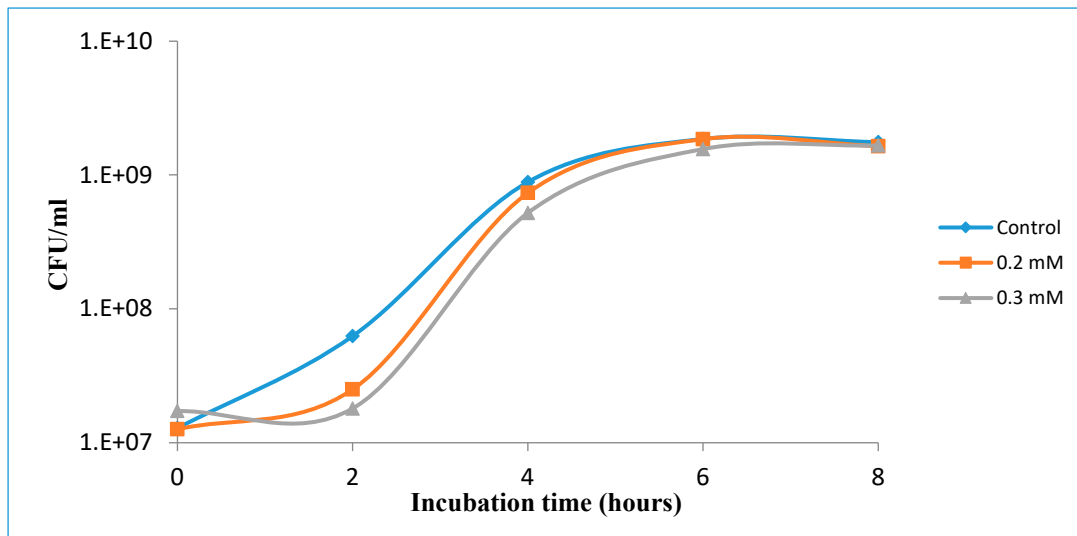


Figure 1. Effect of low concentrations of zinc on bacterial growth. Growth curve analysis was done on *B. subtilis* cells incubated in LB for 8 h at 37°C with 150 rpm, with or without the presence of ZnCl₂. Viable cell count was done using CFU methods.

Table 1. Primers used for RT-PCR analyses.

Gene	sequence (5'-3')
<i>rpoB</i> -F	5' TGCCGGTTACGGTTCTTTTG 3'
<i>rpoB</i> -R	5' TGTCGCTGTTTTCTGTGTTATCTTT AT 3'
16S rRNA-F	5' GCGAAGTGCGGGTGATTT 3'
16S rRNA-R	5' GCAGTCTATGTGTTACCGTTACCT 3'
<i>tasA</i> -F	5' CCGCTCCTGAATATGATGGT 3'
<i>tasA</i> -R	5' GCCGTTCCACTGTGTAGCTT 3'
<i>epsH</i> -F	5, ACTCTGACATTGCCCAAACC 3'
<i>epsH</i> -R	5' GCCCTGAAGCTGAAAACTG 3'