

Article

Detection of *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *phaseoli* isolated from root nodules of leguminous plants by multiplex-PCR

Raghad Nawaf Al-zaidy^{1, *}, Aryan Mohammed Hamed², and Taghreed Nawaf Ahmed³
^{1,3} College of Education for Pure Science, Department of Biology, University of Mosul, Iraq.

² College of Education, Department of Psychology, University of Al-Hamdaniya, Al-Hamdaniya, Nineveh, Iraq.

* Correspondence: raghadnawaf@uomosul.edu.iq

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ABSTRACT

The genetic diversity of 4 *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* that was extracted from root nodes of *Trifolium* spp and *Phaseolus vulgaris* L cultivars circulated in Mosul soils were investigated. The bacteria strains under study show similar tolerance levels against some external factors. In the current study, using classical diagnosis methods, similarity and distance indices and DNA polymorphism were examined with the randomly amplified polymorphic DNA. The isolates were distributed through genetic diversification into two main classes, including two main branches, R12 and the other sub-group was divided into R13, and the neighboring group involved R11 and R14. It is noted that individual plants and abiotic aspects were less affected than the Genetic factor on bacterial diversity. On the other hand, in multiplex-PCR reaction, Our outcomes revealed specific amplified for *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* with amplification products 419 bp and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* with amplification products 362 bp.

Keywords: *R. leguminosarum* bv. *phaseoli*, *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* , nodules, multiplex-PCR, RAPD-PCR .

INTRODUCTION

Rhizobia belongs to legumes that are widespread all over the world in various kinds of soil. They can be found as symbionts of leguminous plants. Rhizobia can stabilize the amount of nitrogen to a sufficient level to lessen the plants' dependence on nitrogen artificial fertilizers¹. The host bezel of *R. leguminosarum* is capable of stimulating successful symbiosis with different legumes that belong to the family of *Trifolium*, *Phaseolus*, *Vicia*, *Lathyrus*, *Pisum*, and *Lens* that form several biovars (symbiovars) and species². *Trifolium* (clover), An important leguminous plant, Can utilize benefit nitrogen (N₂) and install sufficient quantities of it in the soil during growth³. Like other members of *Phaseolus vulgaris* be-

longing to Leguminosae, it established a useful symbiotic conglomeration with *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* that lead to form root nodules and fixing nitrogen². *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *phaseoli* and *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* are gram-negative bacteria that can interact with the roots of *Trifolium* spp. and *Phaseolus*, respectively, to shape active nitrogen-fixing nodules^{4,2}. Abiotic factors like water stress, soil salinity, pH, temperature variation and Soil nature affected the activity of nodules formed⁵. A few studies are present about rhizobial nodules that deal with *Trifolium* (clover) and *Phaseolus vulgaris* roots. Therefore, it is necessary to investigate those isolates' genotypic and phenotypic diversity. The present study focuses on the isolation of *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* in Mosul city from legume plants. Thus, the current study aims to classically demonstrate the strains depending on the isolation sites, different biochemical tests and ability to grow in different Concentrations of NaCl and dried environment conditions. In contrast, the molecular screening achieved sensitive PCR protocol for the specific PCR by the 23S rRNA partial gene⁶, which is very useful for detecting isolated strains⁷. It is worth mentioning that random amplified polymorphic DNA (RAPD) has been utilized to evaluate the rhizobia diversity to enhance the phylogenetic tree and relationships between bacteria.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Bacterial strains

Four isolates of *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* were recovered from active nodules of *Trifolium* spp (Two isolates) and *Phaseolus vulgaris* L (Two isolates) root plants. All nodules were washed with tap water; after being impregnated in 95% ethanol, they were washed with distilled water and cultivated on yeast extract of mannitol agar medium. So single cell colonies of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *phaseoli* and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* were prepared in pure form⁸.

Temperature Adaptation and NaCl Tolerance

The isolated bacteria were tested for various temperatures, beginning at 28,33,42 and ending at 53° C onto YEM. Salinity tolerance of isolated strains was conducted using YEMA agar containing 2.5,5.0,7.5 and 10% NaCl. Normal saline 8.9%NaCl was added to the YEMA medium as a standard test⁸.

Primary diagnosis and biochemical reaction

Pre-diagnosis for bacterial isolates includes macroscopic examination and biochemical tests from active nodules of *Trifolium* spp. and *P. vulgaris* plants⁹.

Isolate and evaluate of Genomic DNA

Genomic DNA was extracted using a gDNA purification kit (Promega, USA). Its purity was conducted by nano-spectrophotometer at 260-280nm. gDNA integrity was estimated by electrophoresis¹⁰.

Molecular detection of R. leguminosarum bv.

For investigation of *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli*, respectively, two primer sets were used in this field provided by (Bioneer, Korea), as detailed in the following table(1).

Gene	Sequence (5' - 3').		Amplicon size(bp.).	Accession No.(NCBI).
16S-IS-23SrRNA*	F	TTT- GCTGTCAGGTGTTTGCG	419	GQ411394.1
	R	AACGG- TAATCCGATCGTCCG		
23SrRNA**	F	AGCGTTCGGTAA- GCTGATGA	362	U47356.1
	R	GTTCTCTCAA- GCGCCTTGGT		

Table 1. Primer sets for molecular screening of *R.leguminosarum* bv. **R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* , ** *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli*.

Multiplex reaction was performed program, which was begun with an initial denaturation at 95°C for 10min, 35 cycles of 95°C for 30s, 54°C for 30s, 72°C for 30s and 5 with final extension at 72°C utilizing AccuPower® Multiplex PCR Pre-Mix(Bioneer, Korea).

2.6 Genetic variation of gDNA according to RAPD-PCR

Four randomly chosen primers (Bioneer, Korea), utilized for RAPD fingerprints range composed of ten nucleotides and their sequences and symbols include: OPA-18(AGGTGACCGT), OPA-16(AGCCAGCGA A), OPH-01(GGTCGGAGAA), OPK-01(CATTTCGAGCC). The previous primers were synthesized by Bioneer (S. Korea). PCR primer (20µl.) included Taq DNA polymerase 1U, dNTPs 250µM.(dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP), 1.5 mM of MgCl, 30 mM of KCl, 10 mM of Tris-HCl(pH 9.0), methylene blue as a loading dye, nuclease-free water and DNA marker was 100bp. (Bioneer, Korea). The amplification tubes were subjected to Applied Biosystem gradient thermocycler (USA) for achieve following program: initial incubation 95° C for 180s, and 35cycles of 95° C for 30s as initial denaturation, 33,35,30 and 30° C (Respectively)for 30s as annealing temperature for primer hybridization, 72° C for 30s as an extension and final incubation 72° C for 180s.

2.7 DNA fingerprinting analysis

Data analysis of 16S-IS-23SrRNA gene for detection of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* and 23SrRNA gene for detection *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* using MEGA version 6¹¹.

All RAPD outcomes were transformed into a binary matrix with two digits (0, absence of a band and 1, presence of a band) to achieve genetic diversity and phylogenetics utilizing the PALEontological software of Statistics (Version 1.94b; Software of PASS, University of Oslo).

RESULTS

Samples

Four isolates were collected, two from *Trifolium* spp root nodules and the others from *Phaseolus vulgaris* root nodules Table (2).

Plant	isolated strains	symbol
Trifolium aureum L.	1	R11
Trifolium repens L.	1	R12
Phaseolus vulgaris(Locally)	2	R13, R14
Total isolated strains	4	

Table 2. Source of Rhizobium spp.

Phenotypic investigation

The similarity among all isolated strains was dominant depending on phenotypic determination, as detailed in Table 3 as found by (Deka and Azad, 2006; Gilbert et al., 2018),

Test		Bacterial strains			
		R11	R12	R13	R14
Direct examination	Microscopically	Gram-negative rod			
Indirect examination	Cultural appearance	Creamy mucoid			
Biochemical test	Oxidase	Positive			
	Catalase	Positive			
	Glucose and scrose fermentation	Positive			
	I	Positive			
	O	Negative			
	Vi	Positive			
	Ci	Negative			
	Ca	Negative			
3-K	Positive				
Tolerance	Salinity (2.0-10%)	Resist (Growth rate reduction)			
	Dreid Enviorment	Resist			

Table (3): Microscopic, macroscopic, biochemical and tolerance of Rhizobium spp.

Significance of 16S-IS-23SrRNA and 23SrRNA

Our outcomes revealed specific amplification for DNA of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* with amplification products 419 bp and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* with amplification products 362 bp. as shown in Figure 1.

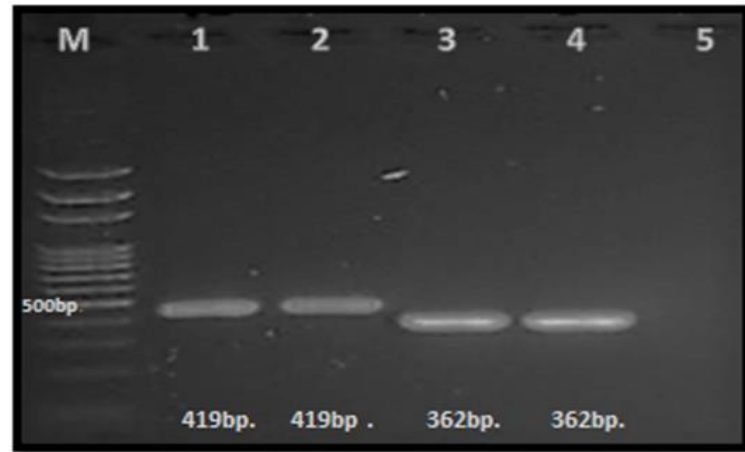


Figure 1 . Amplicons of for *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifolii* (Lines1 and2, 419bp.)and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* (Lines 3 and 4 ,362bp). Line M is a DNA marker (100bp.) and line 5 is a negative control.

The notable amplification fragments of OPA-18 (AGGTGACCGT), OPA-16 (AGCCAGCGAA),OPH-01 (GGTCGGAGAA), OPK-01 (CATTCGAGCC) explored more accurate relationships among Rhizobial isolated strains (Figure two and three) which in turn was represented via similarity and dissimilarity and dendrogram.

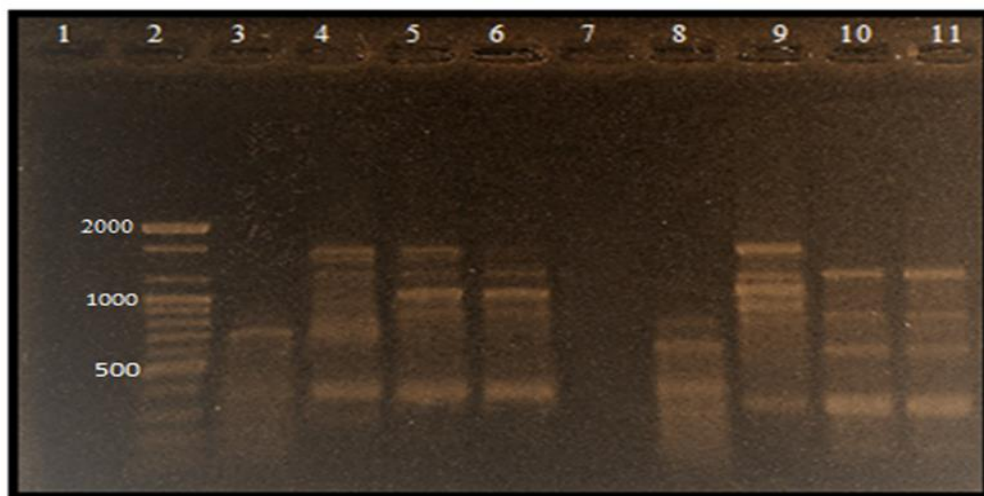


Figure (2). Random amplicons of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Trifolii* (Lines 3-6) and *R. leguminosarum* bv *phaseoli* (Lines 8-11) primers. Lines 1 and 7 are negative control. Line 2 is a DNA marker (100bp.).

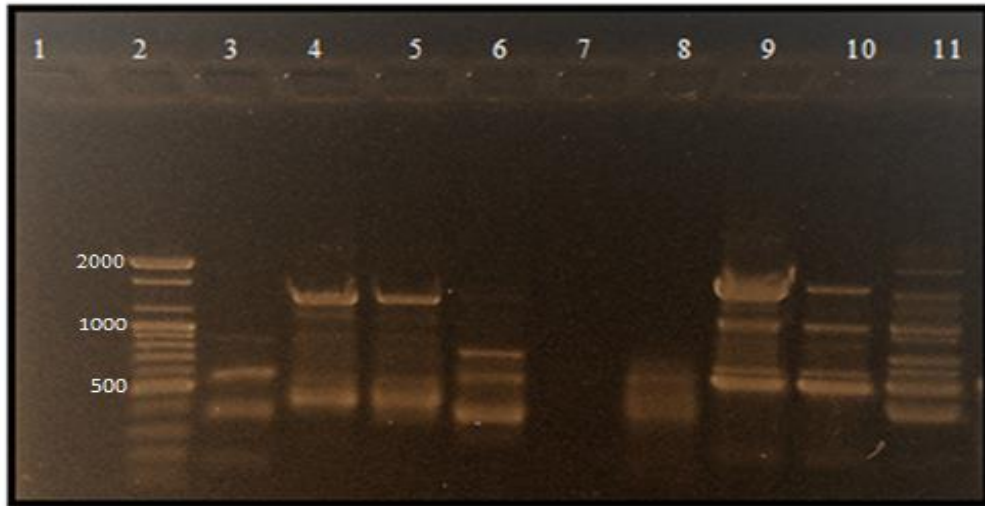


Figure (2). Random amplicons of *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Trifolii* (Lines 3-6) and *R. leguminosarum* bv *phaseoli* (Lines 8-11) primers. Lines 1 and 7 are negative control. Line 2 is a DNA marker (100bp).

Similarity and distance indices

The observative data that belong to isolated strains revealed a high percent between R11 and R14 (0.62554) and a low between R12 and R13 (0.32969); more details in Table 4.

Symbols of rhizobium	R11	R12	R13	R14
R11	0	0.53161	0.51075	0.62554
R12	0.53161	0	0.32969	0.57104
R13	0.51075	0.32969	0	0.51075
R14	0.62554	0.57104	0.51075	0

Table (4): Similarity and distance indices among *R. leguminosarum* bv. *trifoli* and *R. leguminosarum* bv. *Phaseoli* isolates.

On the other hand, the illustrated dendrogram classified the isolated strains into clusters, including two main branches, R12. The other sub-group was divided into R13, and the neighboring group involved R11 and R14 (Figur 4).

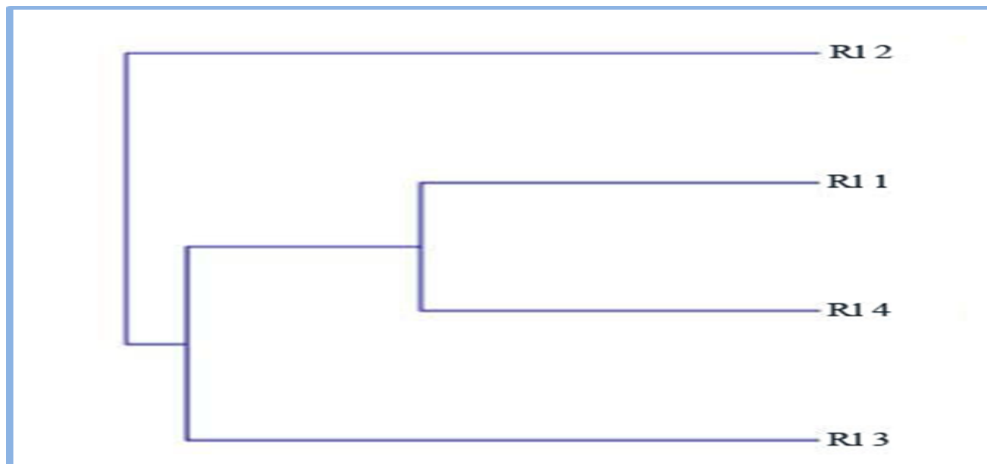


Figure (4) : Dendrogram of *R. leguminosarum* by. *trifoli* and *R. leguminosarum* by. *Phaseoli* isolates revealed two main groups, one represented by R12. The subgroup was divided into two branches involving R13 and R11, and R14 represented the neighboring subgroup.

DISCUSSION

As for *Phenotypic investigation*, previous results matched those documented by ¹², who isolated *Rhizobium* from *Phaseolus vulgaris* L. *Rhizobial* isolated showed notable ability to various salt concentrations (2.0-10). Our conclusions and results were consistent with that reported by ¹³. In addition, the results show growth reduction with increasing soil salinity and other non-suitable environmental conditions ¹⁴.

These results were concluded by ^{15,16}, and ¹⁷, who confirmed their outcomes by molecular determination utilizing specific primers for *Rhizobial* fingerprinting and genotyping. Generally, genotyping depending on specific primers allows the detection of bacterial genera and species ¹⁸.

RAPD is an important confirmative tool at the molecular level due to utilizing the same random primers with numerous species or genera ¹⁹.

Finally, similarity and distance indices results were agreed with reported data by ²⁰.

Overall, we conclude that RAPD fingerprinting is a great tool that could be used to determine the variation among the *Rhizobium* population; many studies were carried out in this field, like (7; 21) who noticed that RAPD-PCR was more sensitive to demonstrate the relationship among *rhizobium*.

CONCLUSIONS

The phenotypic allows us to sensitivity at the genus level, As it was shown that all the isolates belong to the *rhizobium*, While the PCR multiplex reaction allows us to sensitivity at the species level As it classified bacteria into two groups, the *R. leguminosarum* by. *trifoli* and *R. leguminosarum* by. *Phaseoli* isolates. In contrast, rapid amplification led to the identification of Similarity and distance indices between all isolates.

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