**Supplementary Table S1. Primers for the multiplex PCR assay of serogroup and virulence gene.**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Target genes | Primer sequences (5’-3’) | Product size (bp) |
| Serogroup |  |  |
| *lmo0737* | Forward: AGGGCTTCAAGGACTTACCC | 691 |
| Reverse: ACGATTTCTGCTTGCCATTC |
| *lmo1118* | Forward: AGGGGTCTTAAATCCTGGAA | 906 |
| Reverse: CGGCTTGTTCGGCATACTTA |
| *ORF2819* | Forward: AGCAAAATGCCAAAACTCGT | 471 |
| Reverse: CATCACTAAAGCCTCCCATTG |
| *ORF2110* | Forward: AGTGGACAATTGATTGGTGAA | 597 |
| Reverse: CATCCATCCCTTACTTTGGAC |
| *Prs* | Forward: GCTGAAGAGATTGCGAAAGAAG  Reverse: CAAAGAAACCTTGGATTTGCGG | 370 |
| Virulence genes |  |  |
| *hly* | Forward: GAGAGGAGGGGCTAAACAGTAT | 1698 |
|  | Reverse: TCGTGTGTGTGTTAAGCGGT |  |
| *plcA* | Forward: ACCAGGTACACATGATACGA | 803 |
|  | Reverse: CCGAGGTTGCTCGGAGATAT |  |
| *plcB* | Forward: GGGAAATTTGACACAGCGTT | 261 |
|  | Reverse: ATTTTCGGGTAGTCCGCTTT |  |
| *prfA* | Forward: CTGTTGGAGCTCTTCTTGGTGAAGCAATCG | 1060 |
|  | Reverse: AGCAACCTCGGAACCATATACTAACTC |  |
| *actA* | Forward: GACGAAAATCCCGAAGTGAA | 385 |
|  | Reverse: CTAGCGAAGGTGCTGTTTCC |  |
| *mpL* | Forward: TTGTTCTGGAATTGAGGATG | 502 |
|  | Reverse: TTAAAAAGGAGCGGTGAAAT |  |
| *inlA* | Forward: ACGAGTAACGGGACAAATGC | 800 |
|  | Reverse: CCCGACAGTGGTGCTAGATT |  |
| *inlB* | Forward: TGGGAGAGTAACCCAACCAC | 884 |
|  | Reverse: GTTGACCTTCGATGGTTGCT |  |
| *inlJ* | Forward: TGTAACCCCGCTTACACAGTT | 238 |
|  | Reverse: AGCGGCTTGGCAGTCTAATA |  |
| *iap* | Forward: ACAAGCTGCACCTGTTGCAG  Reverse: TGACAGCGTGTGTAGTAGCA | 131 |