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Draft Genome Sequences for Two Metal-Reducing Pelosinus fermentans Strains Isolated from a Cr(VI)-Contaminated Site and for Type Strain R7

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Pelosinus fermentans 16S rRNA gene sequences have been reported from diverse geographical sites since the recent isolation of the type strain. We present the genome sequence of the P. fermentans type strain R7 (DSM 17108) and genome sequences for two new strains with different abilities to reduce iron, chromate, and uranium.

Pelosinus fermentans strain R7 was isolated as a representative iron-reducing bacterium from Russian kaolin clays and as the type strain for a new genus (11). P. fermentans 16S rRNA gene sequences dominated iron-reducing enrichments derived from geochemically different soils obtained from the Melton Branch Watershed, near Oak Ridge, TN, which suggests physiological flexibility within the species (4). Subsurface microbial communities from an Oak Ridge, TN, field site contaminated with uranium were stimulated in situ with a slow-release vegetable oil substrate; subsequently, bacteria related to Pelosinus species dominated, and in turn their fermentation end products were proposed to stimulate other community members (3). Pelosinus strain UFO1 was isolated from pristine sediments at a background field site in Oak Ridge, TN, and was found to have the ability to facilitate hexavalent uranium removal via reduction and phosphate precipitation mechanisms (10).

P. fermentans 16S rRNA gene sequences have been reported from uranium- and heavy-metal-contaminated soils in Germany (12), and phylogenetic analysis indicated bacteria closely related to Pelosinus in Portuguese soil enrichments capable of uranium reduction (7). Sporotalea propionica, an isolate from the intestinal tract of a soil-feeding termite, has been transferred to the genus recently (8).

Metal-reducing Pelosinus species dominated electron acceptor-limited enrichments that used lactate as the main carbon source and electron donor and inocula from contaminated groundwater samples drawn from the U.S. Department of Energy’s H-100 well in Hanford, WA (9). Sixteen isolates obtained from the chemostat studies via fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) were identified as being 99 to 100% identical to P. fermentans strain R7 at the 16S rRNA gene level (9). The three strains sequenced in this study were assayed for their abilities to reduce different metals and all reduced soluble Fe(III) but not solid-phase iron (9). Strain A11 was notable as being the only isolate able to reduce hexavalent uranium (9).

The draft genome sequences for strains A11, B4, and R7 were generated using a combination of Illumina (1) and 454 technologies (6) with HiSeq2000 and GS FLX instruments, respectively. All data sets were from paired-end DNA libraries, with approximate insert sizes of 500 bp and 3 kb for the Illumina and 454 libraries, respectively. Illumina sequence data were trimmed for quality (CLC Genomics Workbench version 4.7.1) and then assembled with Velvet (version 1.1.04) (13), and hybrid assemblies were generated as described previously (2).

There were 65, 76, and 134 contigs greater than 500 bp that constituted the draft genome sequences for strains R7, B4, and A11, respectively, and their estimated genome sizes ranged from approximately 4.9 to 5.1 Mb. Draft genome sequences were annotated at Oak Ridge National Laboratory using an automated annotation pipeline, based on the Prodigal gene prediction algorithm (5).

These P. fermentans draft genome sequences will facilitate comparative and functional genomic studies and will permit a better assessment of their functions and relationships within microbial community structures in the future.

Nucleotide sequence accession numbers. The genome sequences have been deposited at DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank under the accession numbers AKVN00000000, AKVM00000000, and AKVJ00000000 for strains R7 (DSM 17108), A11, and B4, respectively. The versions described in this paper are the first versions, AKVN00000000, AKVM00000000, and AKVJ00000000.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research was conducted by the Ecosystems and Networks Integrated with Genes and Molecular Assemblies (ENIGMA) Scientific Focus Area and was funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Biological and Environmental Research Division under contract no. DE-AC02-05CH11231 to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Oak Ridge National Laboratory is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC, for the U.S. Department of Energy under contract DE-AC05-00OR22725.

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