

**Supplemental materials:**

**Table S1:** Bacterial Strains

*Bacterial Strains	Relevant Characteristics	Reference or Source
<i>Pectobacterium</i> species		
Ecc71	Wild Type	[1]
Ecc193	Wild Type	[2]
Eca12	Wild Type	[2]
SCRI193	Wild Type	[2]
Ecc7	Wild Type	Lab collection
EC153	Wild Type	[3]
DB61	Wild Type	Lab collection
DB193	Wild Type	Lab collection
DB192	Wild Type	Lab collection
AH2	Wild Type	[4]
SCRI1043	Wild Type	Lab collection
Ecb11129	Wild Type	Lab collection
AH2552	Wild Type	[4]
Scc3193	Wild Type	[5]
<i>Dickeya</i> Species		
Dd3937	Wild Type	[6]
Ec16	Wild Type	[7]
Ec183	Wild Type	Lab collection
D1	Wild Type	Lab collection
D4	Wild Type	Lab collection
D9	Wild Type	Lab collection
D10	Wild Type	Lab collection
D14	Wild Type	Lab collection
<i>Erwinia tracheiphila</i>		
MISpSp	Wild Type	[8]
<i>Escherichia coli</i>		
MC4100	Wild Type	Lab collection
<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv <i>tomato</i>		
DC3000	Wild Type	[9]
<i>Pantoea stewartii</i>		
DC283	Wild Type	[10]
<i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i>		
GA012	Wild Type	Lab collection
<i>Salmonella enterica</i> subsp. <i>enterica</i> serovar <i>Typhimurium</i>		

LT2	Wild Type	Lab collection
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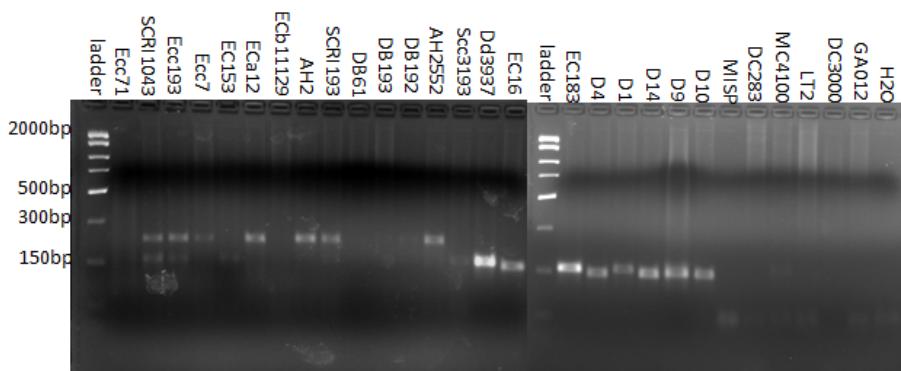
\*Because of continuing revision in the taxonomy and nomenclature of soft rot bacteria, we have decided not to assign species to the strains. Thus, we are grouping all *Pectobacterium* strains together and all *Dickeya* strains together.

**Table S2:** Proteins whose coding sequences were used to design primers

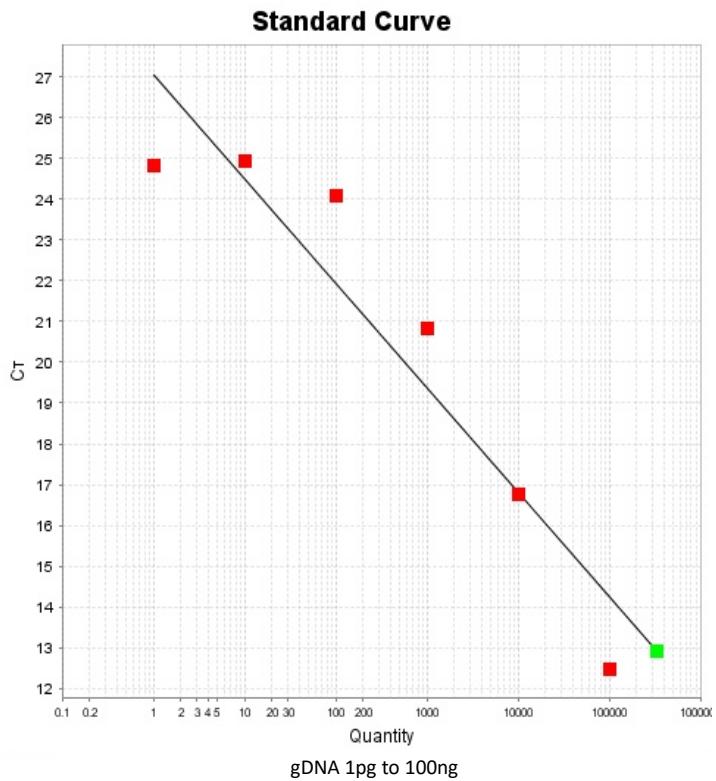
Source Genome	*Protein	Accession	Genus detected
<i>Dickeya</i> and			
<i>Dickeya dadantii</i> Ech586	Dd586_0685 global regulatory protein	YP_003332283.1	<i>Pectobacterium</i>
<i>Pectobacterium wasabiae</i> WPP163	Pecwa_1592 hypothetical protein	YP_003258989.1	<i>Pectobacterium</i>
<i>Pectobacterium wasabiae</i> WPP163	Pecwa_3132 hypothetical protein	YP_003260481.1	<i>Pectobacterium</i>
<i>Pectobacterium wasabiae</i> WPP163	Pecwa_0772 hypothetical protein	YP_003258198.1	<i>Pectobacterium</i>
<i>Dickeya dadantii</i> Ech586	Dd586_1497 hypothetical protein	YP_003333070.1	<i>Dickeya</i>
<i>Dickeya dadantii</i> Ech586	Dd586_0422 hypothetical protein	YP_003332023.1	<i>Dickeya</i>

\*Identified by Naushad HS, Lee B, and Gupta RS [11].

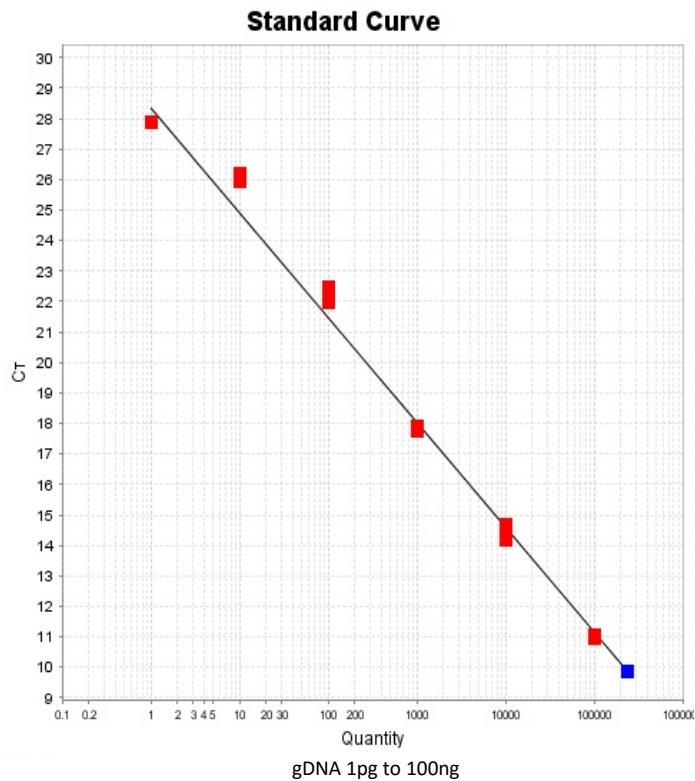
**Figure S1:** Amplification with *Dickeya* specific primer (Dda1F-Dda1R). All *Dickeya* strains yielded a product with the expected size of 157-bp. Seven *Pectobacterium* strains yielded products in the range size of 220-bp DNA fragment. Other seven *Pectobacterium* strains, two Enterobacteriaceae, two Erwiniaceae and two non Enterobacterales strains did not yield any fragment. Fifteen  $\mu$ l reactions were carried out in 45 cycles with annealing at 56.6 °C for 1 min and extension at 72 °C for 1 min.



**Figure S2A:** Standard curves showing real-time PCR assay  $C_t$  values vs. template DNA concentrations from Ecc71 with Pcc3F-Pcc3R primer set. Here Y = threshold cycles ( $C_t$ ) of target DNA detected, x = amount of target DNA (pg) used as a template to generate each data point in the standard curve. Twenty-five  $\mu$ l reactions were carried out in 40 cycles with annealing at 49.9 °C for 1 min and extension at 72 °C for 1 min. Red color represents target samples and green color represents positive control. The  $R^2$  for the plot is 0.89.



**Figure S2B:** Standard curves showing real-time PCR assays.  $C_T$  values vs template DNA concentrations from Dd3937 with Dda1F-Dda1R primer set. Here Y-axis represents threshold cycles ( $C_T$ ) of target DNA detected and the, X-axis represents amount of target DNA (pg) used as a template to generate each data point in the standard curve. Twenty-five  $\mu$ l reactions were carried out in 40 cycles with annealing at 56.6 °C for 1 min and extension at 72 °C for 1 min. Blue color represents positive control and red color represents negative control. The  $R^2$  for the plot is 0.99.



## References

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**Commented [KD1]:** These were previously in the main document. We decided to separate them from those of the main manuscript. Accordingly, the number of references in the main manuscript has reduced.