

**Table S1.** Bacterial strains, plasmids and primers used in this study.

Name	Description	Origin
<b>Strain</b>		
<i>Pectobacterium atrosepticum</i> SCRI1043 ( <i>Pba</i> )	Wild type	[1]
<i>Pectobacterium atrosepticum</i> SCRI1043 $\Delta$ <i>entA</i>	Mutant strain of SCRI1043 containing the kanamycin cassette in the chromosome; <i>Km<sup>R</sup></i>	This study
<i>Pectobacterium atrosepticum</i> SCRI1043comp $\Delta$ <i>entA</i>	Mutant strain of SCRI1043 containing the kanamycin cassette in the chromosome and the <i>entA</i> complementation construct on pGEM: <i>entA</i> ; <i>Amp<sup>R</sup></i>	This study
<i>Escherichia coli</i> cc118	Host for suicidal vector pKNG101; $\Delta$ ( <i>ara</i> , <i>leu</i> ) <i>araD</i> $\Delta$ <i>lacX</i> 74 <i>galE</i> <i>galK</i> <i>PhoA20</i> <i>thi-1</i> <i>rpsE</i> <i>rpoB</i> <i>argE</i> ( <i>am</i> ) <i>recA1</i> , <i>Sm<sup>R</sup></i>	[2]
<i>Escherichia coli</i> HH26/pNJ5000	Mobilizing strain for conjugative transfer of the suicide vector pKNG101 into <i>Pba</i> cells; <i>tra+</i> ; <i>Tet<sup>R</sup></i>	[3]
<i>Escherichia coli</i> NovaBlue	<i>endA</i> <i>1hsdR17</i> ( <i>rK12-mK12+</i> ) <i>supE44</i> <i>thi-1</i> <i>recA1</i> <i>gyrA96</i> <i>relA1</i> <i>lacF'</i> [ <i>proA+</i> <i>B+</i> <i>lacIqZ</i> $\Delta$ <i>M15::Tn10</i> ( <i>Tet<sup>R</sup></i> )]	Novagen
<b>Plasmids</b>		
pGEM-T Easy	Linearized vector for cloning; <i>f1 ori Amp<sup>R</sup> lacZ</i>	Promega
pGEM: <i>entA</i>	<i>f1 ori Amp<sup>R</sup> lacZ entA</i>	This study
pGEM: $\Delta$ <i>entA</i> ; <i>Km<sup>R</sup></i>	<i>f1 ori Amp<sup>R</sup> lacZ Km<sup>R</sup></i>	This study
pKD4	Matrix for PCR amplification of kanamycin resistance cassette; <i>oriR<math>\gamma</math> rgnB bla Km<sup>R</sup></i>	[4]
pKNG101	Suicide mobilized vector for inactivation of target genes; <i>pir-ori R6K mobRK2 sacB Sm<sup>R</sup></i>	[5]
pKNG101: $\Delta$ <i>entA</i> ; <i>Km<sup>R</sup></i>	Suicide plasmid carrying mutant locus $\Delta$ <i>entA</i> ; <i>Km<sup>R</sup></i> ; <i>Km<sup>R</sup> SmR sacB</i>	This study
pGEM: <i>entA</i> ; complementation construct	<i>f1 ori Amp<sup>R</sup> lacZ entA</i>	This study
<b>Primers</b>		
Primer name	Primer sequence 5'–3'	
<b>Primers for mutagenesis</b>		
<b>upentAF</b>	GCTGCGTACCGATGAAATGC	
<b>dnentAR</b>	CAATGTCTTTCTCGCCGCTG	
<b>dnentAKmF</b>	CCATGTCAGCCGTTAAGGGATGGCGGGGCAACGCTGACGGCCTGATTG	
<b>upentAKmR</b>	CAGCTCCAGCCTACACAATCGAGGTTGTGCCTTGTTCATCATTTTC	
<b>KmentAF</b>	GATGAACAAGGCACAACCTCGATTGTGTAGGCTGGAGCTGCTTC	
<b>KmentAR</b>	GCCGTCAGCGTTGCCCGCCATCCCTTAACGGCTGACATGGGAATTAGC	

<b>CheckentAF</b>	CGAAAGGCGTGGAGATCGGC
<b>CheckentAR</b>	GCCAGCGGGGAGCCAATC
<b>Primers for complementation construct</b>	
<b>promF</b>	GCTTTCATCCATGACAGGCTCACATTTAG
<b>promentAR</b>	TGTGCCTTGTTTCATCATAAGACAGCTCCTGCGCTCGCAA
<b>promentAF</b>	TTTGCGAGCGCAGGAGCTGTCTTATGATGAACAAGGCACA
<b>entAtermR</b>	GATGCTGCCCTTTATCACTGTTTCAGGCCGTCAGCGTTGCC
<b>entAtermF</b>	GGCAACGCTGACGGCCTGAACAGTGATAAAGGGCAGCATC
<b>termR</b>	CCTAAGCCTGCTATCTCCTCAGCATAAATTC
<b>Primers for qRT-PCR</b>	
<b>NtAOCF</b>	CGGCTCAACTGATTCCTCTACAAC
<b>NtAOGR</b>	GTTTGTTGCTAAAGGGGACAAGATC
<b>NtLOXF</b>	CACGCATAATGAGTTTGATAGTTTTG
<b>NtLOXR</b>	CTGAGGAGTTGGGTACTTAAATAGGC
<b>NtEFF</b>	GCCCAACACTTCTTGATGCTC
<b>NtEFR</b>	GACACCAGTTTCCACACGACC
<b>NtATPF</b>	GGTCGATGGCTTGGGAGTACC
<b>NtATPR</b>	GCACAGATTTACGTTCAATAATACCAG

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