12-Month Report
(September 2009- August 2010)



# A Study on the diversity of yeast endosymbionts from mushroom-feeding and wood-feeding Beetles

R252124

By

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For

The Biodiversity Research and Training Program (BRT)

National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC)

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BRT Project code BRT R252421

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# Method

## Yeast isolation

Yeasts were isolated from gut of beetles by disinfecting the beetle surfaces with 95% ethanol for 1-2 min. The alcohol wash was followed by a 0.7% saline (NaCl) rinse, the rinse liquid was plated on acidified YM agar (Difco YM broth, 2% plain agar, adjusted to pH 3.5 with HCl). Forceps, dissecting needles, and minute insect pins are used to dissect the beetles on sterile microscope slides under a dissecting microscope. The beetle gut is removed aseptically, cut into pieces, and transferred to tubes containing 0.7% saline. Gut segments are crushed in the saline solution with a pipette tip and streaked with a loop onto the surface of acidified YM agar plates. Plates are incubated at 25°C. After incubation, yeast colonies were picked and purified by streaking on YM agar. Purified yeast strains were suspended in YM broth supplemented with 10% glycerol and maintained at -80 °C.

# DNA sequencing and phylogenetic analysis

The sequences of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene were determined from PCR products amplified from genomic DNA extracted from yeast cells by using a slightly modified version of the method described by Lachance *et al.* (1999). The D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene was amplified by PCR with the forward primer NL-1 and the reverse primer NL-4 (O'Donnell, 1993). The PCR product was checked by agarose gel electrophoresis and purified by using the DNA purification kit NucleoSpin<sup>R</sup> Extract (MARCHEREY-NAGEL). The purified PCR product was submitted to Macrogen Inc. (Korea) for sequencing with the external primers NL-1 and NL-4. The sequences were compared pairwise using a BLASTN search (Altschul *et al.*, 1997) and were aligned with the sequences of related species retrieved from GenBank using the multiple alignment program CLUSTAL\_X version 2.0 (Larkin *et al.*, 2007). A phylogenetic tree was constructed from the evolutionary distance data with Kimura's two-parameter correction (Kimura, 1980), using the neighbor-joining method (Saitou & Nei, 1987). Confidence levels of the clades were estimated from bootstrap analysis (1000 replicates) (Felsenstein, 1985).

# Phenotypic characterization

The strains of novel species were characterized morphologically, biochemically, and physiologically according to the standard methods described by Yarrow (1998). Assimilation of nitrogen compounds was examined on solid media with starved inocula following the method of Nakase & Suzuki (1986). Growth at various temperatures was determined by cultivation in YM

broth. Ubiquinones were extracted from cells cultivated in a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask containing 200 ml of YM broth on a rotary shaker at 25 °C were harvested in the early stationary growth phase. The cells were washed with distilled water and freeze-dried. Extraction and purification of ubiquinones were carried out according to Nakase & Suzuki (1986). Ubiquinone isoprenologues were identified by HPLC.

### Results

Two hundred and forty-three insect samples were collected from 3 provinces in Thailand (Khao Yai National Park; Nakhon Ratchassima, Khao Nan National Park; Nakhon Sri Thammarat and Nam Nao National Park; Phitsanulok). Ninety-five insect samples were collected from mushrooms, one hundred and ten samples were collected from wood, nine samples were collected from mushroom on the log and twenty-nine samples can't identified to the habitat as these insects were collected in the bungalows of the national park or picked from the ground or from plants. Insect samples were identified to be 21 families as Anthicidae, Brentidae, Carabidae, Cerylonidae, Chrysomelidae, Ciidae, Cleridae, Coccinellidae, Curculionidae, Elateridae, Endomychidae, Erotylidae, Histeridae, Hydrophilidae, Lucanidae, Nitidulidae, Passalidae, Passandridae, Scarabaeidae, Staphylinidae and Tenebrionidae. One hundred and fifty-three yeast strains were isolated from gut of 62 insect samples in 15 families as Carabidae, Cerylonidae, Chrysomelidae, Curculionidae, Elateridae, Endomychidae, Erotylidae, Histeridae, Lucanidae, Nitidulidae, Passalidae, Passandridae, Scarabaeidae, Staphylinidae and Tenebrionidae. Not found yeast from gut of Anthicidae, Brentidae, Ciidae, Cleridae, Coccinellidae and Hydrophilidae. Table 1 shows the list of the insect families and the number of insects belonging to these families as well as the number of yeasts that have been isolated from these families.

One hundred and forty-three yeast strains were identified by sequences analysis of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene (Table 2, 3). Among 143 strains taxonomically studied, a total of 38 strains (26.6 %) were identified to be described species or known species. Thirty-four strains were assigned to 8 described species in four genera of the phylum Ascomycota (Candida, Debaryomyces, Pichia and Pseudozyma) consisted of Candida haemulonii, C. insectorum, C. oleophila, C. parapsilosis, Debaryomyces polymorphus, Pichia caribbica, P. stipitis and Pseudozyma aphidis. Eight strains were assigned to two described species in two genera of the phylum Basidiomycota consisted of Cryptococcus humicola and Rhodotorula mucilaginosa. Thirty-three strains were similar to the undescribed species (23.1%) in 6 species as Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290, Candida sp. AST2009a, Candida sp. BG02-7-15-009-2-1, Candida sp. CBS 10852, Candida sp. GE13S02 and Rhodotorula sp. SJ15L05. Seventy-two strains (50.3%) were identified

to be seven 15 new species closest with *Blastobotrys* sp. NRRL YB-2290, *Candida kazuoi*, *Candida maxi*, *Candida panamericana*, *Candida* sp. AS2.4033, *Candida* sp. BG99-8-18-1-6, *Candida* sp. SJ-1, *Candida* sp. ST-370, *Candida* sp. ST-431, *Candida* sp. UWO(PS)99-305.2, *Candida subhashii*, *Candida terraborum*, *Debaryomyces polymorphus*, *Endomyces scopularum*, *Pichia* sp. BET4 and *Trichosporon dulcitum*.

<u>Table 1</u> Insect identifications and the number of yeasts found from gut of insects samples.

NI.	Foreile	Total	Yeas	st found	
No.	Family	Insect sample	No	Ye	S
1	Anthicidae	5	5	0	(0%)
2	Brentidae	neval agoal Vondolale	nastidle other	0	(0%)
3	Carabidae	26	24	2	(7.6%)
4	Cerylonidae	2	1	1	(50%
5	Chrysomelidae	3	2	1	(33.3%)
6	Ciidae	national flark or pic	alows of the	gmud 0	(0%
7	Cleridae	abjected to a language	to It at hai	0	(0%
8	Coccinellidae	1	1	0	(0%
9	Curculionidae	4	3 abrail	) ====1	(25%
10	Elateridae	niki salaman I	and 2 morby	I sail 1	(33.3%
11	Endomychidae	10	9	1	(10%
12	Erotylidae	8	3	5	(62.5%
13	Histeridae	13 m	12	ani 50 n	(7.7%
14	Hydrophilidae	3	3	0	(0%
15	Lucanidae	4	3	1	(25%
16	Nitidulidae	7	6	1	(14.3%
17	Passalidae	16	10	6	(37.5%
18	Passandridae	2	1,000	1	(50%
29	Scarabaeidae	11	3	8	(72.7%
20	Staphylinidae	9	8	1 isolate	(11.1%
21	Tenebrionidae	113	82	31	(27.4%
		243	181	62	(25.5%

<u>Table 2</u> List of yeast species found from gut of beetles.

No.	Result of Identification	No. of Isolated
Knov	wn species	THE RESIDENCE OF
1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	16
2	Candida insectorum (U45791)	3
3	Candida oleophila (U45793)	3 3 1
4	Candida parapsilosis (U45754)	2
5	Debaryomyces polymorphus (U45836)	2
6	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	5
7	Pichia stipitis (U45741)	3
8	Pseudozyma aphidis CBS 517.83 (AJ235303)	2
9	Cryptococcus humicola CBS571 (AF189836)	2
10	Rhodotorula mucilaginosa (AF070432)	2
	Sub total	38
Unde	escribed species	
1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	10
2	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	9
3	Candida sp. BG02-7-15-009-2-1 (AY520324)	eeste &
4	Candida sp. CBS 10852 (EU570106)	1
5	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	. 11
6	Rhodotorula sp. SJ15L05 (EU547814)	1
	Sub total	33
New	species	
1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	1
2	Candida maxii BG01-7-21-006A-1-1 (AY242253)	3
3	Candida panamericana BG01-7-26-006B-2-1 (AY242273)	2
4	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	5
5	Candida sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 (AY242348)	4
6	Candida sp. SJ-1 (EF653272)	1
7	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	15
8	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	28
9	Candida sp. UWO(PS)99-305.2	2
10	Candida subhashii (EU836708)	1
11	Candida terraborum BG02-7-15-019A-2-1 (AY309810)	1
12	Debaryomyces polymorphus (U45836)	1
13	Endomyces scopularum (U40092)	
14	Pichia sp. BET4 (FM179640)	3
15	Trichosporon dulcitum (AF075517)	4
	Sub total	72
	Total	143

Table 3 Yeast identification by sequence analysis of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene

3	O. M. C. L.	7000	Identities	iies	Gap	Substitutions	utions	Result of	Query	Length of
	Strain 190.	Closest species	No.	%	No.	No.	%	identification	(letters)	closest species
-	MS01/1	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	570/570	100.0	0	0	0.0	Pichia caribbica	570	570
7	MS01/1.1	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	470/470	100.0	0	0	0.0	Pichia caribbica	470	570
3	MS01/1.2	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	570/570	100.0	0	0	0.0	Pichia caribbica	570	570
4	MS01/1.3	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	570/570	100.0	0	0	0.0	Pichia caribbica	270	570
5	MS03/01	Candida oleophila (U45793)	572/572	100.0	0		0.0	Candida oleophila	572	572
9	MS3/03	Debaryomyces polymorphus (U45836)	569/570	8.66	0		0.2	Debaryomyces polymorphus	570	570
7	MS3/08	Pichia sp. BET4 (FM179640)	534/562	95.0	2	26	4.6	New species	561	584
∞	MS3/09	Debaryomyces polymorphus (U45836)	511/548	93.2	18	19	3.7	New species	530	270
6	MS04/05	<i>Pichia</i> sp. BET4 (FM179640)	534/563	95.0	æ	26	4.6	New species	295	584
10	MS04/06	Pichia sp. BET4 (FM179640)	534/562	95.0	7	26	4.6	New species	561	584
11	MS20/3.1	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
12	MS20/3.2	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
13	MS20/4	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	538/561	95.9	33	20	3.6	New species	260	218
14	MS20/6	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	260	544
15	MS20/8	Candida terraborum (AY309810)	525/547	0.96	-	26	4.8	New species	260	268
16	MS21/2.3	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
17	MS21/2.4	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	269	544
18	MS21/3.2	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
19	MS21/3.3	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
20	MS21/5.2III	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
21	MS21/5.3	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
22	MS21/6.1	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	278
23	MS21/6.2 I	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	278
24	MS21/6.3 II	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
25	MS21/6.31	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
76	MS21/7.1	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	278
27	MS21/7.2I	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	278
28	MS21/7.2II	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	261	278
29	MS21/7.3II	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
30	MS21/8.2	Cryptococcus humicola (AF189836)	576/578	98.1	-	-	0.2	Cryptococcus humicola	577	625

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No.	Strain No.	Closest species	No.	%	No.	No.	%	identification	(letters)	closest
31	MS21/8.3	Cryptococcus humicola (AF189836)	593/594	8.66	0	-	0.2	Cryptococcus humicola	594	625
	MS21/9.1	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
	MS21/9.11	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	461/482	92.6	2	19	3.9	New species	482	578
	MS21/9.2	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
	MS21/9.21	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
	MS21/9.31	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	537/562	92.6	4	21	3.7	New species	561	578
	MS21/9.3II	Candida sp. ST-370 (DQ404513)	514/539	95.4	4	21	3.9	New species	538	578
	MS22/03	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
	MS22/6	Candida sp. GE13S02 (FJ527140)	542/542	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	695	544
	MS26/1.1	Trichosporon dulcitum (AF075517)	292/606	7.76	0	14	2.3	New species	809	625
	MS26/1.2	Trichosporon dulcitum (AF075517)	581/595	9.76	0	14	2.3	New species	595	625
	MS26/1.3	Trichosporon dulcitum (AF075517)	551/567	97.2	1	15	2.6	New species	999	625
	MS26/4	Trichosporon dulcitum (AF075517)	581/595	9.76	0	14	2.3	New species	595	625
	MS28/4.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS46/2.2	Pseudozyma aphidis (AJ235303)	286/590	99.3	2	2	0.3	Pseudozyma aphidis	619	588
	MS50.2/1	Candida sp. CBS 10852 (EU570106)	556/557	8.66	0	1	0.2	Undescribed species	557	557
	MS56/1.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	553	514
	MS56/1.2	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	553	514
	MS56/1.3	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS56/3.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS56/3.5	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS58/3.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS58/3.4	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS58/3.5	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
	MS79/1.1	Candida parapsilosis (U45754)	570/570	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida parapsilosis	570	570
99	MS79/1.3	Candida parapsilosis (U45754)	269/570	8.66	0	0	0.0	Candida parapsilosis	570	570
57	MS87/1.1	Candida insectorum (U45791)	513/515	9.66	-	I	0.2	Candida insectorum	514	530
89	MS87/3.1	Candida insectorum (U45791)	529/530	8.66	0	0	0.0	Candida insectorum	536	530
	MS87/3.3	Candida insectorum (U45791)	528/530	9.66	0	7	0.4	Candida insectorum	595	530
_	MS91/7.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	553	514

Table 3 (Continued)

			Identities	ies	Gap	Substi	Substitutions	Result of	Query	Length of
No.	Strain No.	Closest species	No.	%	No.	No.	%	identification	(letters)	closest species
61	MS100/3.1	Pichia stipitis (U45741)	567/568	8.66	0	0	0.0	Pichia stipitis	899	568
62	MS100/3.3	Pichia stipitis (U45741)	567/568	8.66	0	0	0.0	Pichia stipitis	268	268
63	MS100/3.4	Pichia stipitis (U45741)	567/568	8.66	0	0	0.0	Pichia stipitis	268	268
64	MS102/1.4	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	429/488	87.9	9	53	10.9	New species	487	515
65	MS102/1.5	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	429/488	87.9	9	53	10.9	New species	487	. 515
99	MS102/3.1	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	436/495	88.1	9	53	10.7	New species	464	515
19	MS102/3.2	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	429/488	87.9	9	53	10.9	New species	487	515
89	MS102/3.3	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	559/568	98.4	1	8	1.4	New species	268	3244
69	MS102/3.4	Candida sp. AS2.4033 (FJ613525)	429/488	87.9	9	53	10.9	New species	487	515
70	MS106/1.2	Candida panamericana (AY242273)	531/547	97.1	-	15	2.7	New species	558	695
71	MS106/1.3	Candida panamericana (AY242273)	531/547	97.1	1	15	2.7	New species	558	699
72	MS108/1.12	Candida sp. UWO(PS)99-305.2	475/503	94.4	10	18	3.6	New species	502	513
73	MS108/1.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	699	556
74	MS108/1.4	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	695	556
75	MS108/1.7	Candida sp. UWO(PS)99-305.2	475/503	94.4	10	18	3.6	New species	502	513
92	MS108/1.9	Rhodotorula sp. SJ15L05 (EU547814)	574/574	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	609	929
77	MS109/3.1	Candida sp. BG02-7-15-009-2-1 (AY520324)	565/565	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	582	287
78	MS115/2.2	Rhodotorula mucilaginosa (AF070432)	583/583	100.0	0	0	0.0	Rhodotorula mucilaginosa	586	009
79	MS133/3.1	Debaryomyces polymorphus (U45836)	569/570	8.66	0	-	0.2	Debaryomyces polymorphus	570	570
80	MS136/1.3	Candida subhashii (EU836708)	542/565	95.9	1	22	3.9	New species	695	959
81	MS150/3.1	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
82	MS150/3.4	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
83	MS151/1.1	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
84	MS151/1.2	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	529/530	8.66	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
85	MS157/1.1	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	529/530	8.66	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
98	MS157/3.1	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
87	MS157/3.5	Rhodotorula mucilaginosa (AF070432)	581/581	100.0	0	0	0.0	Rhodotorula mucilaginosa	583	009
88	MS162/1.1	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
68	MS162/3.2	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/531	8.66	-1	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260
06	MS165/1.12	Candida sp. AST2009a (FJ008044.3)	530/530	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	530	260

;			Identities	ies	Gap	Substir	Substitutions	Result of	Ouery	Length of
Z	Strain No.	Closest species	No.	%	No.	No.	%	identification	(letters)	closest species
91	MS183/1.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
92	MS183/1.3	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
93	MS184/3.1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244
94	MS184/3.6	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
95	MS186/1.1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	292	3244
96	MS186/1.2	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100	0	0	0	Candida haemulonii	514	514
26	MS205/1.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1:1	New species	569	959
86	MS207/1.31	Pichia caribbica (EU348786)	570/570	100.0	0	0	0.0	Pichia caribbica	570	570
66	MS207/1.4	Candida sp. SJ-1 (EF653272)	538/566	95.1	∞	20	3.5	New species	999	578
100	MS220/3.12	Pseudozyma aphidis (AJ235303)	586/588	7.66	0	2	0.3	Pseudozyma aphidis	605	588
101	MS260/1.1	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	556
102	MS261/1.2	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	292	3244
103	MS261/1.4	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	556
104	MS261/1.5	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	556
105	MS261/3.62	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	556
106	MS262/1.1	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86		9	1.1	New species	265	556
107	MS262/1.5	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	_	9	1:1	New species	695	556
108	MS264/3.1	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86		9	1.1	New species	695	959
109	MS265/1.1	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	<del></del>	9	1.1	New species	695	929
110	MS265/3.21	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	-	9	1:1	New species	695	929
111	MS266/1.32	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86		9	1.1	New species	695	929
112	MS266/3.11	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	Ξ:	New species	695	556
113	MS266/3.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	265	556
114	MS267/1.1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/267	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244
115	MS267/1.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	695	929
116	MS267/1.5	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1:1	New species	265	929
117	MS267/3.21	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	265	959
118	MS267/3.221	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	_	9	1.1	New species	265	959
119	MS268/1.1	Candida sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 (AY242348)	497/532	93.5	7	33	6.2	New species	547	554
120	MS268/1.2	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	8.86	-	9	1:1	New species	269	256

Table 3 (Continued)

;			Identities	ies	Gap	Substitutions	utions	Result of	Ouerv	Length
o Z	Strain No.	Closest species	No.	%	No.	No.	%	identification	(letters)	closest species
121	MS268/1.3	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	292	3244
122	MS268/3.4	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86		9	1.1	New species	995	556
123	MS269/1.1	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
124	MS269/3.4	Candida haemulonii type II (U44819)	514/514	100.0	0	0	0.0	Candida haemulonii type II	514	514
125	MS271/1.1	Endomyces scopularum (U40092)	550/563	7.76	7	=	2.0	New species	563	. 561
126	MS271/1.3	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244
127	MS271/3.4	Candida maxii (AY242253)	523/547	92.6	7	22	4.0	New species	260	571
128	MS272/1.1	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244
129	MS272/1.5	Candida sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 (AY242348)	496/532	93.5	2	33	6.2	New species	547	554
130	MS273/1.1	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	995	556
131	MS273/1.5	Candida sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 (AY242348)	497/532	93.5	2	33	6.2	New species	547	554
132	MS273/3.11	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	695	955
133	MS273/3.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	_	9	1:1	New species	695	959
134	MS273/3.4	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244
135	MS276/1.1	Candida maxii (AY242253)	530/554	95.7	2	22	4.0	New species	267	574
136	MS276/1.2	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	929
137	MS276/1.3	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	_	9	1.1	New species	695	955
138	MS276/1.5	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	1	9	1.1	New species	695	959
139	MS276/1.7	Candida sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 (AY242348)	497/532	93.5	7	33	6.2	New species	547	554
140	MS276/1.8	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/267	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	292	3244
141	MS284/1.4	Candida maxii (AY242253)	530/554	95.7	2	22	4.0	New species	292	574
142	MS284/1.5	Candida sp. ST-431 (DQ404522)	550/557	7.86	-	9	1.1	New species	695	929
143	MS285/1.2	Blastobotrys sp. NRRL YB-2290 (DQ442700)	267/567	100.0	0	0	0.0	Undescribed species	267	3244

Many new yeasts species were found in this work closest with a previous study of wood-and basidiocarp-feeding beetles in North America (*Candida maxii* BG01-7-21-006A-1-1, *Candida panamericana* BG01-7-26-006B-2-1, *Candida* sp. BG99-8-18-1-6 and *Candida terraborum* BG02-7-15-019A-2-1). The results revealed that yeasts from beetle guts maybe have evolved closely. One of 15 new species were selected for polyphasic approaches, including conventional taxonomy, chemotaxonomic study and molecular taxonomy and described as *Candida guttulata* sp. nov. The characteristics of this new species is presented in the draft manuscript (see Appendix) to be submitted for publication in International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology; IJSEM (IF = 2.12) in Title: *Candida guttulata* sp. nov., a new ascomycetous yeast species isolated from gut of beetles in Thailand.

From the results we found that 26.6% of newly isolated from gut of beetles were identified to be only 10 known species and found 3 strains of the xylose-fermenting yeast, *Pichia stipitis*. However, more than 70% were undescribed and new species that the ability to ferment xylose is still not known. The ability to ferment xylose must be a goal for future work and will be an added scope during the extension of this project as only a few yeast species have been reported to ferment D-xylose to ethanol. These include *Brettanomyces naardenensis*, *Candida lyxosophila*, *C. intermedia*, *C. shehatae*, *C. tenuis*, *Pachysolen tannophilus*, *Pichia segobiensis*, *Scheffersomyces* (*Pichia*) *stipitis* (Barnett *et al.*, 2000; Kurtzman & Fell, 1998), *Candida jeffriesii*, *Spathaspora passalidarum* (Nguyen *et al.*, 2006), and *Spathaspora arborariae* (Cadete *et al.*, 2009). At present, lignocelluloses in plant biomass with xylose as a major sugar component is of interest as a substrate for production of many microbial products, such as xylitol, acetic acid, and ethanol.

## **Recommendations for follow-on work:**

Given the high number of new species discovered in this project, the gut of the beetles have provided us a new avenue where to look for hidden taxa and species description should be one of the main aims of the second phase of the project. Sampling was done only in a limited period of time and only at a few national parks in Thailand. For the next phase, more beetle collection should be done in the North or in the Northeastern part of the country and compare the diversity of the beetles and the yeasts in each of the geographical location. It would also be of immense importance in the future to be able to study the relationships of the yeasts to the mushrooms where the beetles feed on and if these yeasts in the beetle guts are the same population as those found in the mushrooms. For the utilization of beetle gut yeasts, native xylose fermenting yeasts are important

aspects and the screening of these xylose fermenters will be done during the next phase of this project.

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1 Full paper

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- 2 Candida guttulata sp. nov., a new ascomycetous yeast species
- 3 isolated from gut of beetles in Thailand
- 5 Sukanya Nitiyon<sup>1</sup>, Montarop Sudhadham<sup>1</sup>, Artit Khonsanit<sup>1</sup>, Sasitorn Jindamorakot<sup>1</sup>,
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  - e-mail: Jajen@biotec.or.th
  - Running word: Candida guttulata sp nov.; gut; beetle; yeast
  - The GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ accession number for the sequence of the D1/D2 domain of the
  - LSU rRNA gene of MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup> are XXXXXXXX.

# 1 Summary

2	Three novel yeast strains (MS21/6.1 <sup>T</sup> , MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1) were isolated from
3	gut of beetles, family Scarabaeidae, collected in Khao-Yai National Park, Nakhonrachasima,
4	Thailand. Analysis of the D1/D2 domains of the large subunit rRNA gene sequences revealed
5	that the sequence of D1/D2 domains of the LSU rDNA of three were identical. The closest
6	recognized species of strains MS21/6.1 <sup>T</sup> , MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1 in terms of pairwise
7	sequence similarity were Candida sp. ST-370 and Candida panamericana, but with 3.7% and
8	4.2% nucleotide substitution respectively. Base on the morphological, biochemical,
9	physiological and chemotaxonomic characteristics, and the sequence analysis of the D1/D2
10	domain of the large subunit rRNA gene, the three strains were found to represent a novel
11	Candida species in the Candida tanzawaensis clade. Three strains (MS21/6.1 <sup>T</sup> , MS21/7.1 and
12	MS21/9.1) were assigned as a single novel species, which was named Candida guttulata sp.
13	nov. The type strain is $MS21/6.1^T$ (= CBS XXXXXX <sup>T</sup> = NBRC XXXXXX <sup>T</sup> = BCC XXXXXX <sup>T</sup> ).

#### Introduction

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Associations between yeasts and mushroom- and wood-feeding beetles have largely gone unnoticed until now. In recent years, the diversity and novel species of yeast from natural habitat in Thailand were constantly reported. Many new yeast species were isolated from insect frass such as Candida easanensis, C. hasegawae, C. kazuoi, C. nakhonratchasimensis and C. pattaniensis (Jindamorakot et al., 2004; Nakase et al., 2007) but yeasts from the digestive tract of insects had still not been reported in Thailand. A previous study of basidiocarp-feeding beetles in North America, 650 yeasts were isolated from beetles in 26 families and almost 30% of yeast isolates formed a clade with Candida tanzawaensis (Nakase et al., 1988; Suh et al., 2004). At present Candida tanzawaensis clade consists of 23 recognized species (Kurtzman, 2001; Nakase et al., 1988; Suh et al., 2004). In this clade 16 species (Candida guaymorum, C. bokatorum, C. kunorum, C. terraborum, C. emberorum, C. wounanorum, C. yuchorum, C. chickasaworum, C. choctaworum, C. bolitotheri, C. atakaporum, C. panamericana, C. bribrorum, C. maxi, C. anneliseae and C. taliae) were isolated from digestive tract of basidiocarp-feeding beetles and 2 species (C. ambrosiae and C. pyralidae) were isolated from insect frass.

During investigations of the diversity of yeasts from mushroom-feeding and wood-feeding beetles in Thailand, three yeast strains (MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>, MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1) were found to represent a novel *Candida* species in *Candida tanzawaensis* clade based on the analysis of the D1/D2 domain of the large subunit (LSU) rRNA gene sequence and to be described as *Candida guttulata* sp. nov.

## 1 METHOD

# Yeast isolation

Yeasts were isolated from gut of beetles by disinfecting the beetle surfaces in 95% ethanol for 1-2 min. The alcohol wash was followed by a 0.7% saline (NaCl) rinse, the rinse liquid was plated on acidified YM agar (Difco YM broth, 2% plain agar, adjusted to pH 3.5 with HCl). Forceps, dissecting needles, and minute insect pins are used to dissect the beetles on sterile microscope slides under a dissecting microscope. The beetle gut is removed aseptically, cut into pieces, and transferred into tubes containing 0.7% saline. Gut segments are crushed in the saline solution with a pipette tip and streaked with a loop onto the surface of acidified YM agar plates. Plates are incubated at 25°C. After incubation, yeast colonies were picked and purified by streaking on YM agar. Purified yeast strains were suspended in YM broth supplemented with 10% glycerol and maintained at -80 °C.

# DNA sequencing and phylogenetic analysis

The sequences of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene were determined from PCR products amplified from genomic DNA extracted from yeast cells by using a slightly modified version of the method described by Lachance et al. (1999). The D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene was amplified by PCR with the forward primer NL-1 and the reverse primer NL-4 (O'Donnell, 1993). The PCR product was checked by agarose gel electrophoresis and purified by using the DNA purification kit NucleoSpin<sup>R</sup> Extract (MARCHEREY-NAGEL). The purified PCR product was submitted to Macrogen Inc. (Korea) for sequencing with the external primers NL-1 and NL-4. The sequences were compared pairwise using a BLASTN search (Altschul et al., 1997) and were aligned with the sequences of related species retrieved from GenBank using the multiple alignment program 

CLUSTAL\_X version 2.0 (Larkin *et al.*, 2007). A phylogenetic tree was constructed from the evolutionary distance data with Kimura's two-parameter correction (Kimura, 1980), using the neighbor-joining method (Saitou & Nei, 1987). Confidence levels of the clades were estimated from bootstrap analysis (1000 replicates) (Felsenstein, 1985).

# Phenotypic characterization

The strains of novel species were characterized morphologically, biochemically, and physiologically according to the standard methods described by Yarrow (1998). Assimilation of nitrogen compounds was examined on solid media with starved inocula following the method of Nakase & Suzuki (1986). Growth at various temperatures was determined by cultivation in YM broth. Ubiquinones were extracted from cells cultivated in a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask containing 200 ml of YM broth on a rotary shaker at 25 °C were harvested in the early stationary growth phase. The cells were washed with distilled water and freezedried. Extraction and purification of ubiquinones were carried out according to Nakase & Suzuki (1986). Ubiquinone isoprenologues were identified by HPLC.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

# Species delineation, classification and ecology

Three novel yeast strains (MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>, MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1) were isolated from gut of beetles collected in Khao Yai National Park, Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand. Analysis of the D1/D2 domains of the large subunit rRNA gene sequences revealed that the sequence of D1/D2 domains of the LSU rDNA of three strains were identical. With respect to their closest species in term of pairwise sequences similarity the three strains differed by 3.7%

1 nucleotide substitution (21 nucleotide substitutions and four gaps out of 562 bases) from

2 undescribed species Candida sp. ST-370, 4.2% nucleotide substitutions (23 nucleotide

3 substitutions and four gaps out of 550 nt) from the type strain of Candida panamericana and

4 5.2% nucleotide substitutions (29 nucleotide substitutions and three gaps out of 561 bases)

from the type strain of Candida tanzawaensis. Candida panamericana and Candida

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6 tanzawaensis belong to the Candida tanzawaensis clade. According to Kurtzman & Robnett

(1998), yeast strains showing nucleotide substitutions of greater than 1% in the D1/D2

8 domain of the LSU rRNA gene are usually representative of different species. The

phylogenetic tree based on the sequences of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene

further demonstrated that the three strains (MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>, MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1) was placed

in the Candida tanzawaensis clade and distinct from Candida sp. ST-370, Candida

panamericana, Candida tanzawaensis and other related species in the this clade (Fig. 1).

Cells of the novel species proliferated by multilateral budding, and were negative for urease reactions. Starch-like compounds were not produced as do the other members of *Candida tanzawaensis* clade. Ascospores were not produced from individual strains or strains paired on 5% malt extract agar, Fowell's acetate agar and YM agar after 5 weeks at 25 °C. The characteristics fit well with those of the genus *Candida*. Therefore, we concluded that the three strains represent a novel species for which the name *Candida guttulata* sp. nov. is proposed to accommodate the three strains MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>, MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1

In practice, *Candida guttulata* sp. nov. can be distinguished from *C. panamericana*, *C. atakaporum* and *Candida tanzawaensis* by many characteristics as shown in Table 1.

The *Candida tanzawaensis* clade consists of 23 recognized species (Kurtzman, 2001; Nakase *et al.*, 1998; Suh and Blackwell, 2004). 16 species from this clade (*Candida* 

guaymorum, C. bokatorum, C. kunorum, C. terraborum, C. emberorum, C. wounanorum, C. yuchorum, C. chickasaworum, C. choctaworum, C. bolitotheri, C. atakaporum, C. panamericana, C. bribrorum, C. maxi, C. anneliseae and C. taliae) were isolated from digestive tract of basidiocarp-feeding beetles similar with a novel Candida species in this work, Candida guttulata sp. nov. Two species (C. ambrosiae and C. pyralidae) were isolated from insect frass. The result of our work and from other studies revealed that the yeast taxa in Candida tanzawaensis clade are highly associated with the digestive tract of beetles. The digestive tract of beetles may be a major habitat of the yeasts in this clade.

Latin diagnosis of *Candida guttulata* Nitiyon, Sudhadham, Khonsanit, Jindamorakot *et*Luangsa-ard sp. nov.

singulae, binae, aut pseudohyphae fiunt, per germinationem multipolarem reproducentes.

In agaro YM post dies 3 ad 25  $^{\circ}$ C cellulae ovoidae aut cylindricae, (1-4 × 2-7 µm),

Cultura cremea, glabra, nitidae, margine glabra. In agaro

farinae Zea mays post dies 3 ad 25 °C pseudohyphae formantur, hyphae non formantur.

Ascosporae non formantantur. D-Glucosum, D-galactosum et α,α-trehalosum fermentantur at non sucrosum, maltosum, lactosum, melibiosum, nec raffinosum. D-Glucosum, D-galactosum, sucrosum, maltosum, cellobiosum, α,α-trehalosum, melezitosum, amylum solubile (infirme), D-xylosum, D-arabinosum (infirme), D-ribosum, ethanolum, glycerolum, ribitolum, D-mannitolum, D-glucitolum, α-methyl-D-glucosidium, salicinum, α-gluconolactonum, acidum 2-ketogluconicum, acidum succinicum, acidum citricum, D-glucosaminum, N-acetyl-D-glucosaminum, ethylaminum, L-lysinum et cadaverinum assimilantur. L-Sorbosum, lactosum, melibiosum, raffinosum, inulinum, L-arabinosum, L-rhamnosum,

erythritolum, galactitolum, acidum 5-ketogluconicum, acidum DL-lacticum, inositolum, 1

2 acidum D-glucuronicum, acidum D-galacturonicum, xylitolum, L-arabinitolum, acidum D-

gluconicum, propanum-1,2-diolum, butanum-1,2-diolum, methanolum, kalium nitricum nec 3

natrum nitrosum non assimilantur. Vitamina externa crescentiae non necessaria sunt. Crescit 4

postest in temperatura 35 °C at non in 37 °C. Non crescit in 0.01% cycloheximido nec 0.1%

cycloheximido. Crescit in 10% natrii chloridum/5% glucosum. Non crescit in 50% glucosum,

60% glucosum, 10% natrii chloridum/5% glucosum nec 15% natrii chloridum/5% glucosum.

Amylum non formatur. Ureum non hydrolysatur. Ubiquinonum majus: Q-9

Typus stirpis,  $MS21/6.1^{T}$  (= CBS XXXXXX<sup>T</sup> = NBRC XXXXXX<sup>T</sup> = BCC XXXXXX<sup>T</sup>) 9 isolatus designat stirpem typicum, Nakhonrachasima provicia, Thailandica, conservatur in 10 collectionibus culturarum quas Centraalbureau voor Schimmelciltures (Utrecht, The 11 Netherlands), NITE Biological Resource Center (Chiba, Japan) et BIOTEC Culture 12 13 Collection, Nationnal Central for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Thailand (Pathumthani, Thailand) deposita est.

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Description of Candida guttulata Nitiyon, Sudhadham, Khonsanit, Mongkolsamrit,

Jindamorakot & Luangsa-ard sp. nov.

After growth on YM agar for 3 days at 25 °C, cells are ovoid to cylindrical (1-4 × 2-7 μm) and occur singly, in pairs or in short chain (Fig. 2). Budding is multilateral. Colony is cream-colored, smooth, glossy and has an entire margin. Pseudohyphae are formed, but true hyphae are not formed in slide culture on cornmeal agar after 3 days at 25 °C. Ascospores are not produced from individual strain or strains paired on 5% malt extract agar. Fowell's acetate agar and YM agar after 5 weeks at 25 °C. The major ubiquinone is Q-9. Fermentation

of D-glucose, D-galactose and  $\alpha,\alpha$ -trehalose are positive but negative for sucrose, maltose, lactose, melibiose and raffinose. D-Glucose, D-galactose, sucrose, maltose, cellobiose, α,αtrehalose, melezitose, soluble starch (weak), D-xylose, D-arabinose (weak), D-ribose, ethanol, glycerol, ribitol, D-mannitol, D-glucitol, α-methyl-D-glucoside, salicin, α-gluconolactone, 2-ketogluconic acid, succinic acid, citric acid, D-glucosamine, N-acetyl-Dglucosamine, ethylamine-HCl, L-lysine-HCl and cadaverine are assimilated but L-sorbose, lactose, melibiose, raffinose, inulin, L-arabinose, L-rhamnose, erythritol, galactitol, 5ketogluconic acid, DL-lactic acid, inositol, D-glucuronic acid, D-galacturonic acid, xylitol, Larabinitol, D-gluconic acid, propane-1,2-diol, butane-2,3-diol, methanol, potassium nitrate and sodium nitrite are not assimilated. Growth in vitamin free medium is weak positive. Growth at 35 °C is positive, but at 37 °C is negative. Growth with 0.01% cylcloheximide and 0.1% cylcloheximide are negative. Growth on medium containing 10% (w/v) sodium chloride/5% (w/v) glucose but negative on 50% (w/v) glucose, 60% (w/v) glucose and 15% (w/v) sodium chloride/5% (w/v) glucose. Starch-like compounds are not produced and urease reactions are negative.

The type strain  $MS21/6.1^T$  (= CBS XXXXXX<sup>T</sup> = NBRC XXXXXX<sup>T</sup> = BCC XXXXXX<sup>T</sup>) was isolated from gut of beetle collected in Khao-Yai National Park, Nakhonrachasima, Thailand.

## Acknowledgements

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- Table 1. Differential phenotypic characteristics of Candida guttulata sp. nov., C.
- panamericana, C. atakaporum and C. tanzawaensis

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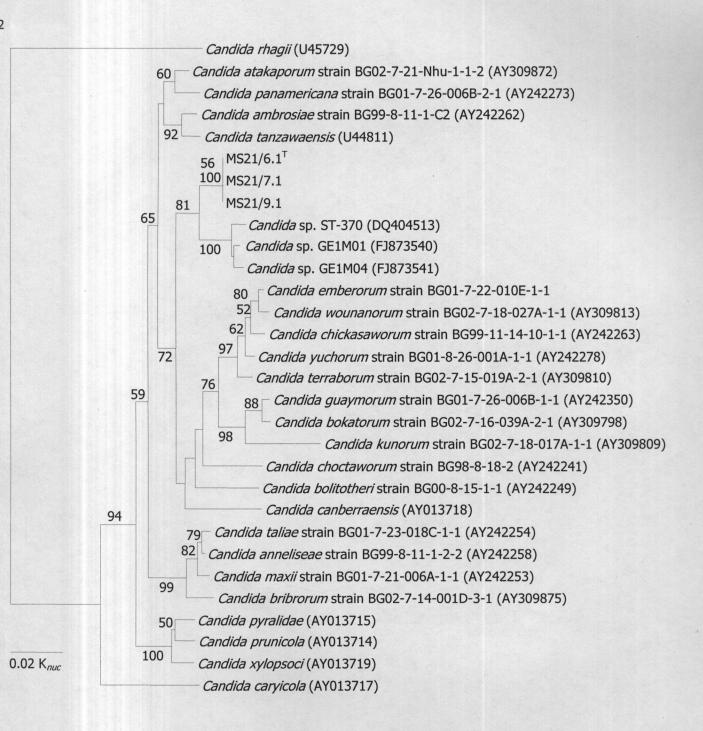
- Species: 1, Candida guttulata; 2, C. panamericana; 3, C. atakaporum; 4, C. tanzawaensis
- +, Positive; w, weak; -, negative; nd. Data for C. tanzawaensis were taken from Meyer et al.
- (1998) and data for C. atakaporum, C. atakaporum were taken from Suh et al. (2004)

Characteristics	1	2	3	4
Fermentation				
Galactose	+	d	-	-
Melibiose	100	-9	rechiple	nd
Trehalose	+	+	d	w
Cabon assimilation				
Soluble starch	w		w	-
D-Xylose	+	+	+	-
D-Arabinose	w		w	
D-Ribose	+	-	-	-
Ethanol	+	1.0	+	+
α-Glucono-lactone	+	nd	nd	nd
5-ketogluconic acid	-	nd	nd	
DL-Lactic acid	-	a •	d	-
D-Galacturonic acid		nd	nd	nd
D-gluconic acid	-	+	w	(da 2)
D-Glucosamine	+	d/+	d	da ±
N-Acetyl-D-glucosamine	+	nd	nd	+
Propane-1,2-diol			W	-
Other				
Growth w/o requirment	w	v	anneik	-
50% Glucose	- 9	+	W	strai
60% Glucose		+	o. D•lor	nd
15% NaCl	W	w/-	W	nd
35°C	+	d/+	+	
Ubiquinone	Q9	nd	nd	Q9

# 1 Figure legends

- 2 Fig. 1. Phylogenetic tree based on the sequences of the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA
- 3 gene, showing positions of *Candida guttulata* sp. nov. (MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>, MS21/7.1 and MS21/9.1)
- 4 with respect to closely related species. The phylogenetic tree was constructed from
- 5 evolutionary distance data with correction Kimara's two-parameter (Kimura, 1980), using the
- 6 neighbor-joining method. Numbers indicate percentages of bootstrap sampling, derived from
- 7 1000 samples.
- 8 Fig. 2. Candida guttulata sp. nov. MS21/6.1<sup>T</sup>. (a) Cells grown on YM agar after 3 days at 25
- 9 °C and (b) pseudohyphae produced on cornmeal agar after 5 days at 25 °C; Bar, 10 μm.

Fig. 1.



ALCOHOLD BEET

