



Original article

## Cloning, sequencing, and characterizing of soil antibiotic active-producing *Streptomyces* species-specific DNA markers

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## ARTICLE INFO

## Keywords:

Cloning

EcoRI

Homologous Proteins

RAPD-PCR

Sequencing

*Streptomyces*

## ABSTRACT

Association of the antibiotic activity of the soil *Streptomyces* isolates to their genetic profiles analyzed through RAPD-PCR fingerprints prompted us here in this study to use the most common bands as specific markers to identify homologous proteins within these isolates by cloning, sequencing, and characterizing these markers. Six out of twelve DNA bands ranged between 600 and 1350 bp previously obtained by RAPD-PCR analysis were purified out of the RAPD gels, and then cloned into pGEM-T Easy vector system. Success of the cloning process was confirmed by digesting purified plasmids with *EcoRI*. The clones namely No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58 were sequenced using the DNA BigDye Terminator Sequencing System utilizing the M13 primer. Results indicated that the size of the inserted sequences is 599, 566, 522, 870, 857, and 254 bp, in clones No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58, respectively. Homologous proteins of the six cloned sequences generated by DNA blast software indicated that the highest score of protein homology was scored for clone No. 54 with 87 % homology to putative secreted pectate lyase [*Streptomyces coelicolor* A3(2)]. The other clones showed less homology with 77 % homology for the clones No. 55 and 56, 73 % homology for the clone No. 20, and 55 % homology for the clones No. 57 and 58. The association of homologous proteins to the reported RAPD pattern is confirmed here for the first time, and the resulting DNA cloned fragments deserve further molecular analysis.

## 1. Introduction

*Streptomyces* spp. are filamentous Gram-positive bacteria that play a remarkable role in medical, veterinary, agricultural, and environmental fields (Lee et al., 2019; Hamed et al., 2020; Butt et al., 2023). They are very important sources of antibiotics and novel bioactive compounds such as probiotics, antitumor, immunosuppressants, herbicides, and pesticides (Alam et al., 2022; Cuzzo et al., 2023; Shepherdson et al., 2023). Moreover, *Streptomyces* spp. are widely distributed in soil (Mahasneh et al., 2021; Saadoun et al., 2023; Shepherdson et al., 2023) and in a variety of terrestrial, aquatic, and extreme environments (Aryal et al., 2021; Donald et al., 2022; Moore et al., 2023). Furthermore, *Streptomyces* spp. have a significant role in the realm of biotechnology, industry, and drug discovery (Alam et al., 2022) and they are the biggest

producer of novel secondary metabolites and various biological products (Lee et al., 2020; Donald et al., 2022) as well as diverse and valuable natural products (Moore et al., 2023; Wan et al., 2023) that promote good health and improve life quality. Therefore, isolation and identification of different species of the genus *Streptomyces* offer significant advantages to explore novel pharmaceutical compounds (Foulston, 2019), overcome antibiotic resistance (Viswapriya and Saravana, 2022), expand biotechnological applications (Alam et al., 2022) and understand microbial diversity (Shepherdson et al., 2023).

The discovery of new products as well as the efficiency of bioactive compounds produced by *Streptomyces* could be accelerated through cloning (Amore et al., 2012; Fazal et al., 2020). The ability to clone and manipulate *Streptomyces* DNA has revolutionized the process of natural product discovery, enabling scientists to unlock the vast chemical

**Abbreviations:** BLAST, The Basic Local Alignment Search Tool; BSA, Bovine Serum Albumin; LB, Lauria Broth; IPTG, Isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside; RAPD, Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA; S.O.C., Super Optimal broth with Catabolite repression.

Peer review under responsibility of King Saud University.

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sjbs.2023.103854>

Received 11 October 2023; Received in revised form 22 October 2023; Accepted 27 October 2023

Available online 30 October 2023

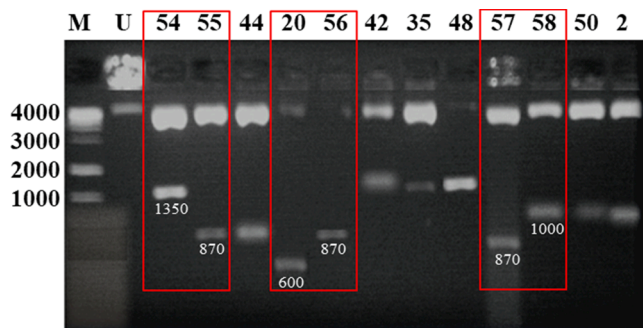
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**Table 1**

DNA bands purified out of the gel of the RAPD reactions (Mahasneh et al., 2021).

Serial No.*	Band (clone) No. (Isolate No.)	Size (bp)
1	54 (H116)	1350
2	55 (C15)	870
4	20 (J133)	600
5	56 (J17)	870
9	57 (A39)	870
10	58 (S144)	1000

\* Represent the lane No. of the tested clones in Fig. 1.



**Fig. 1.** 2 % agarose gel electrophoresis of purified plasmids digested with *EcoRI* restriction enzyme. Lane M: 1000 bp marker, lane U: uncut plasmid, No. from 54 to 2 represent the purified plasmids digested with *EcoRI*.

diversity encoded within these organisms (Wan et al., 2023). Besides, *Streptomyces* clones offer a promising avenue for the discovery of novel bioactive chemicals with therapeutic potential (Foulston, 2019; Fazal et al., 2020) and foster the production of a variety of natural products in efficient and environmentally friendly procedures (Yamanakaa et al. 2014). Moreover, Wan et al. (2023) pointed out that, exploring of the genetic diversity within *Streptomyces* spp., facilitates the identification of unexplored biosynthetic gene clusters (BGCs) and assists the prediction of the chemical structures of the compounds they encode. In addition, microbial cloning is a useful genetic tool that has many advantages. For example, Behrouzpour and Amini (2019) stated that the advantages of producing enzymes through microbial cloning include: (i) a quick fermentation process, (ii) cost-effectiveness, (iii) straight forward screening techniques, and (iv) the ability of microbes to grow rapidly. In brief, *Streptomyces* cloning holds exciting prospects for enhancing the understanding of *Streptomyces* genetics, improving the isolation and characterization of novel chemicals, and expanding avenues for drug discovery for biotechnological and pharmaceutical applications.

In our recent study (Mahasneh et al., 2021), similarities and differences of the predominant gray and white antibiotic-producing *Streptomyces* isolates based on their RAPD-PCR fingerprints were analyzed. We reported and for the first time in literature, the correlation between RAPD clustering and the antibiotic activity of the dominant white and gray aerial mycelium-bearing *Streptomyces* isolates. The results showed that there was one common band of ~600 bp shared by ~85 % of the isolates. Building on the findings from that research, the current study aims to utilize these common bands as specific markers to identify homologous proteins in the dominant soil *Streptomyces* isolates by cloning, sequencing, and characterizing these markers.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. *Streptomyces* isolates

Six out of the twelve pure isolates that represent the predominant antibiotic-producing *Streptomyces* soil isolates in Northern Jordan recovered in a previous study (Mahasneh et al., 2021) were tested here.

### 2.2. Purification of RAPD-PCR DNA bands

In our previous study (Mahasneh et al., 2021) of RAPD-PCR analysis of *Streptomyces*, 12 DNA bands that ranged between 600 and 1350 bp were purified out of the gel of the RAPD reactions using a commercial PCR preps DNA purification kit. Table 1 shows the size of six (No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58) out of 12 bands that were selected to be the most common bands among the different isolates for each random primer used.

The most common bands among samples were selected and purified out from the gels using the Wizard PCR preps DNA purification system (Promega, USA) as follows: The DNA bands were excised using a clean, sterile razor blade and transferred to 1.5 ml Eppendorf tubes. A volume of 1 ml of resin was added and incubated at 65 °C in water bath for 5 min. One Wizard Minicolumn (Promega, USA) attached to 3 ml disposable syringe was prepared for each PCR product. The resin/DNA mix was pipetted into the syringe barrel and with syringe plunger gently pushed into the minicolumn. The columns then were washed using 2 ml of 80 % isopropanol and centrifuged for 2 min at 10,000 xg to dry the resin. Fifty µl of nuclease free water were then added to the minicolumns, and then centrifuged for 20 s at 10,000 xg to elute the DNA. The eluted DNA was stored at -20 °C.

### 2.3. Cloning of the RAPD-PCR DNA fragments

The pGEM-T Easy vector system (Promega, USA) was used for the cloning of the DNA fragments as follows:

#### 2.3.1. Ligation reaction

Reactions of 10 µl were prepared by adding 3 µl of each purified DNA fragment to 5 µl 2X rapid ligation buffer, 1 µl (50 ng) pGEM-T Easy vector, and 1 µl (3 Weiss units) T<sub>4</sub> DNA ligase. The reactions were incubated overnight at 4 °C.

#### 2.3.2. Transformation of the JM109 competent cells

Ligation reactions were centrifuged briefly and 2 µl of each ligation reaction was added to a sterile 1.5 ml micro-centrifuge tube on ice. Fifty µl of *E. coli* JM109 High Efficiency Competent Cells (Promega, USA) were transferred carefully into each tube and heat-shocked for 50 s in a water bath at 42 °C and then transferred immediately to ice. After that, 950 µl of room temperature S.O.C. medium (ThermoFisher Scientific) was added and incubated for 90 min at 37 °C in a shaker incubator at 150 rpm. One hundred µl of each transformation culture were plated onto LB/Ampicillin plates containing IPTG and X-Gal and incubated overnight at 37 °C in an ordinary incubator (Mettler, Germany).

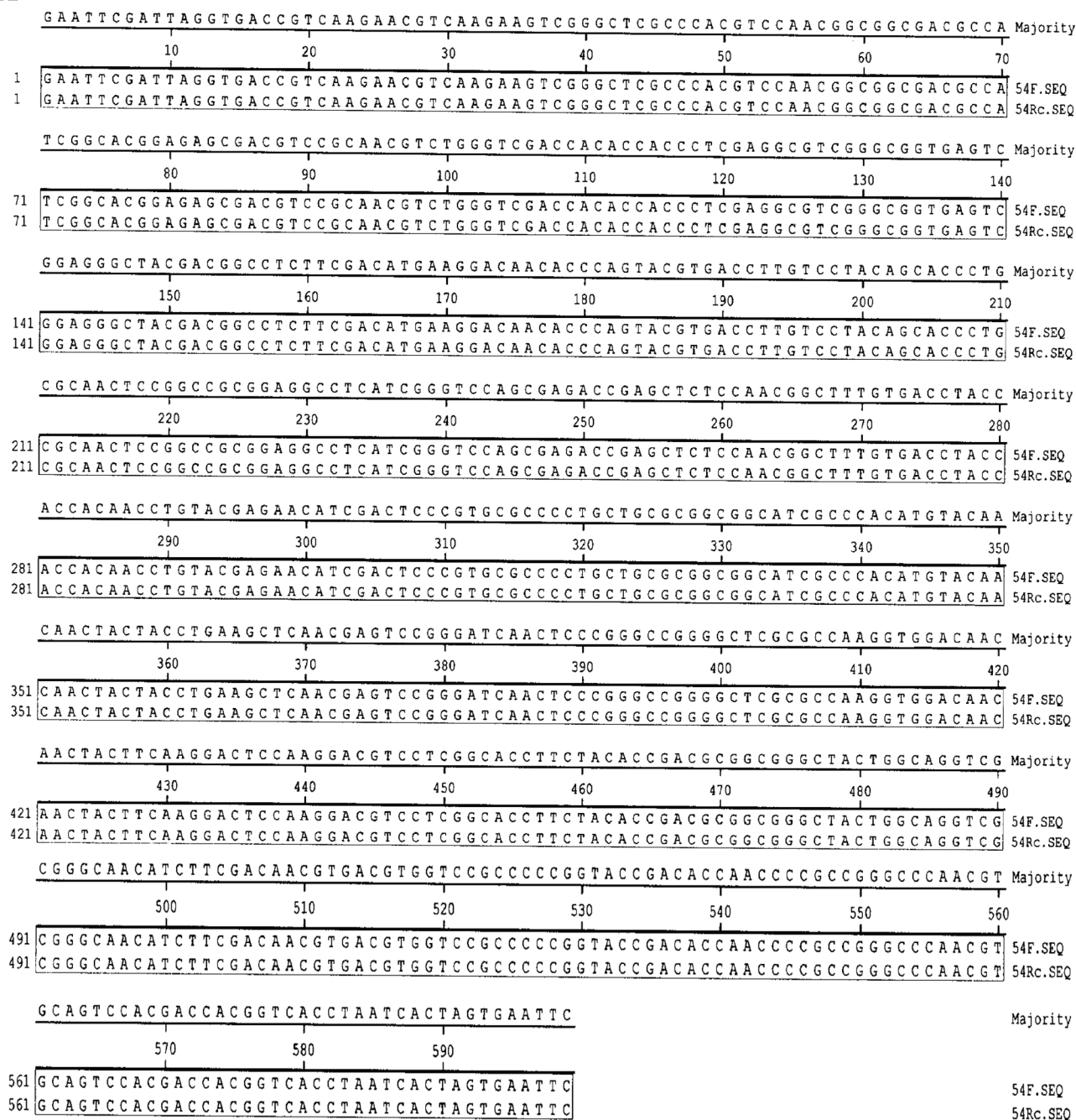
#### 2.3.3. Plasmid preparation

A single, well-isolated white colony from LB/Ampicillin/IPTG/X-Gal plates was inoculated in 15 ml LB-Ampicillin broth and incubated overnight at 37 °C in a shaker incubator (Jeio Tech, Korea). Five ml of each bacterial culture were centrifuged for 5 min at 10,000 xg and pellets were re-suspended in resuspension solution (Promega, USA) and then cell lysis solution (Promega, USA) was used to lyse the cells. The whole mixtures were centrifuged for 10 min at 14,000 xg. Plasmids were prepared by using a centrifugation protocol involving spin columns (Promega, USA). Briefly, centrifuged cell lysates were washed twice with column wash solution (Promega, USA). Plasmids were eluted using nuclease free water and kept at -20 °C.

#### 2.3.4. Digestion with restriction enzyme

To confirm that each plasmid has the inserted DNA, a digestion reaction was performed using the *EcoRI* restriction enzyme (Promega, USA). Five µl of plasmid prepared were incubated with 0.5 µl *EcoRI*, 1 µl buffer, 0.2 µl BSA, and nuclease free water to final volume of 10 µl for 2 h at 37 °C. Gel electrophoresis was then run, and bands visualized under U.V.

**A**



**Fig. 2.** Pairwise alignment of clone No. 54 (A); clone No. 55 (B); clone No. 20 (C); clone No. 56 (D); clone No. 57 (E); clone No. 58 (F) M13 forward and reverse complement sequences using DNA STAR software.

**2.4. Sequencing of the inserted DNA clones and sequence analysis**

The sequencing reaction of the 6 DNA fragments inserted in clones No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58 cloned into pGEM-T Easy vector system (Promega, USA) was made by using the DNA BigDye Terminator Sequencing kit (Applied Biosystems, USA). Ten µl volume sequencing reaction tubes were set up as follows: 2 µl of the BigDye Terminator RR Mix (Applied Biosystems), 1 µl template DNA (plasmids), 2 µl of the pUC/M13 forward or reverse forward primer, and nuclease free water to the final volume of 10 µl. PCR amplification was carried out in PCR tubes (Trefflab, Switzerland) using iCycler Thermocycler (BioRad, USA) programmed as follows: 25 cycles of 96 °C for 10 s, annealing at 50 °C for 5

s, extension at 60 °C for 4 min. After that, tubes were held at 4 °C for direct use, or stored at -20 °C until usage. The contents of each extension reaction were then pipetted into sterile 1.5 ml micro-centrifuge tubes for the precipitation process. Nuclease free water and absolute ethanol were added to the content of each micro-centrifuge tube to the final concentration of 60 % for the absolute ethanol. The micro-centrifuges were vortexed briefly, left at room temperature for 1 h, and then spun for 20 min at maximum speed in a micro-centrifuge (Hermel, Germany). The supernatants were then aspirated carefully with a separate pipette tip for each sample and discarded. Another precipitation process was then carried out using 250 µl 70 % ethanol. Samples were then dried in a vacuum concentrator (DNA mini,

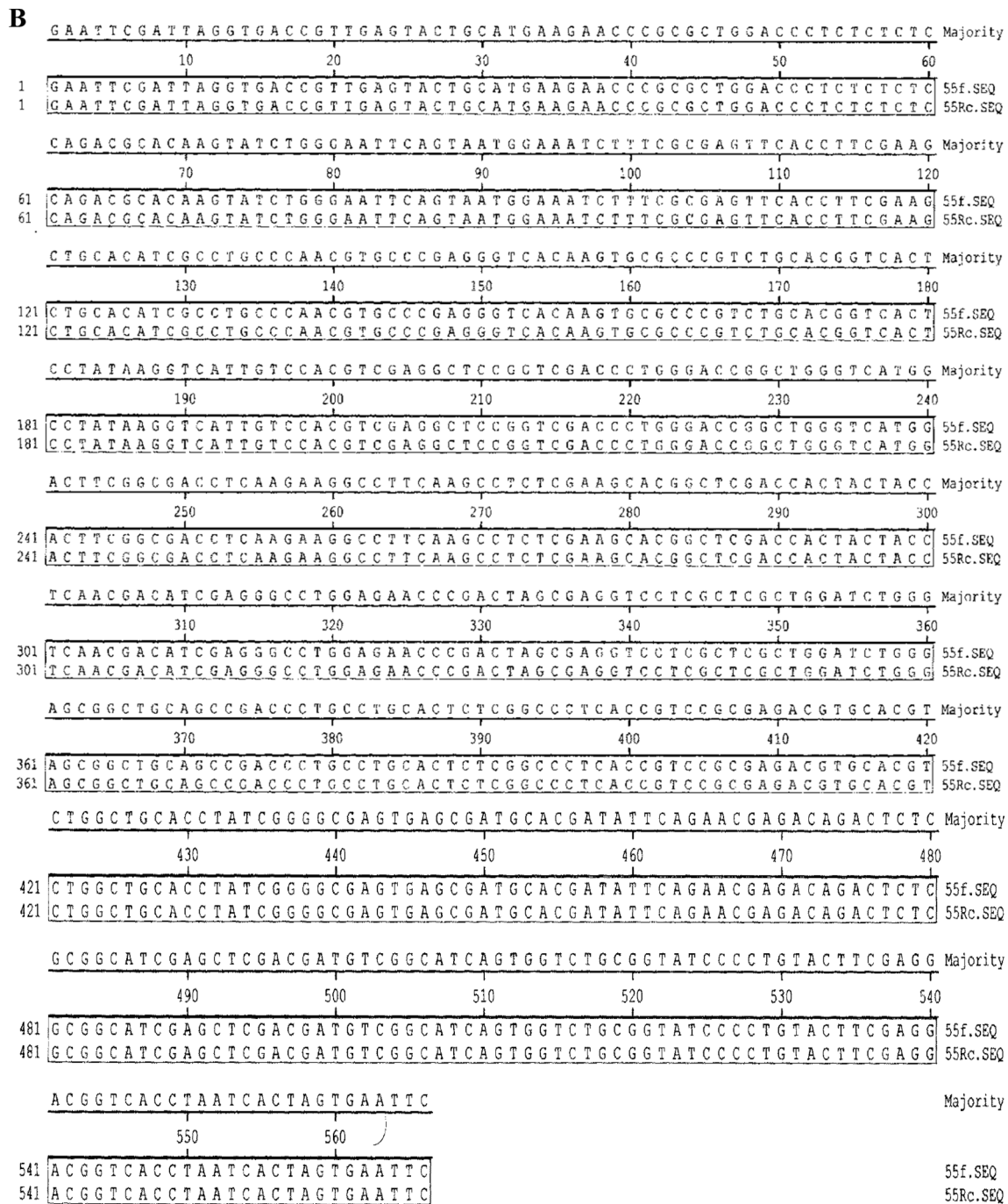


Fig. 2. (continued).

Denmark) for 15 min.

Preparation and denaturation of samples prior to loading on the ABI prism instrument were then carried out as follows: a volume of 100 µl of Hi-Di™ Formamide was added to the tube containing the lyophilized sequenced samples, mixed and heated for 2 min at 95 °C. The samples were then chilled on ice, vortexed thoroughly, and then spun briefly on a micro-centrifuge. After that, the samples were held on ice until ready to load on the 310 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, USA).

The sequence data were analyzed with DNA Star program and homologies and identities to previously characterized genes were determined with a Blast search (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/blast>).

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Cloning of the DNA fragments

Using a commercial DNA cloning kit, the 6 DNA fragments, out of the 12, were purified from the gels and cloned into the indicated plasmids. The blue-white script selection method using LB/ampicillin/x-Gal/IPTG plates was applied to show the positive–negative selection of the *E. coli* JM109 competent cells used in the transformation process. Whit colonies represent the positive colonies (colonies having insert), whereas blue colonies represent the negative colonies (colonies not bearing insert).



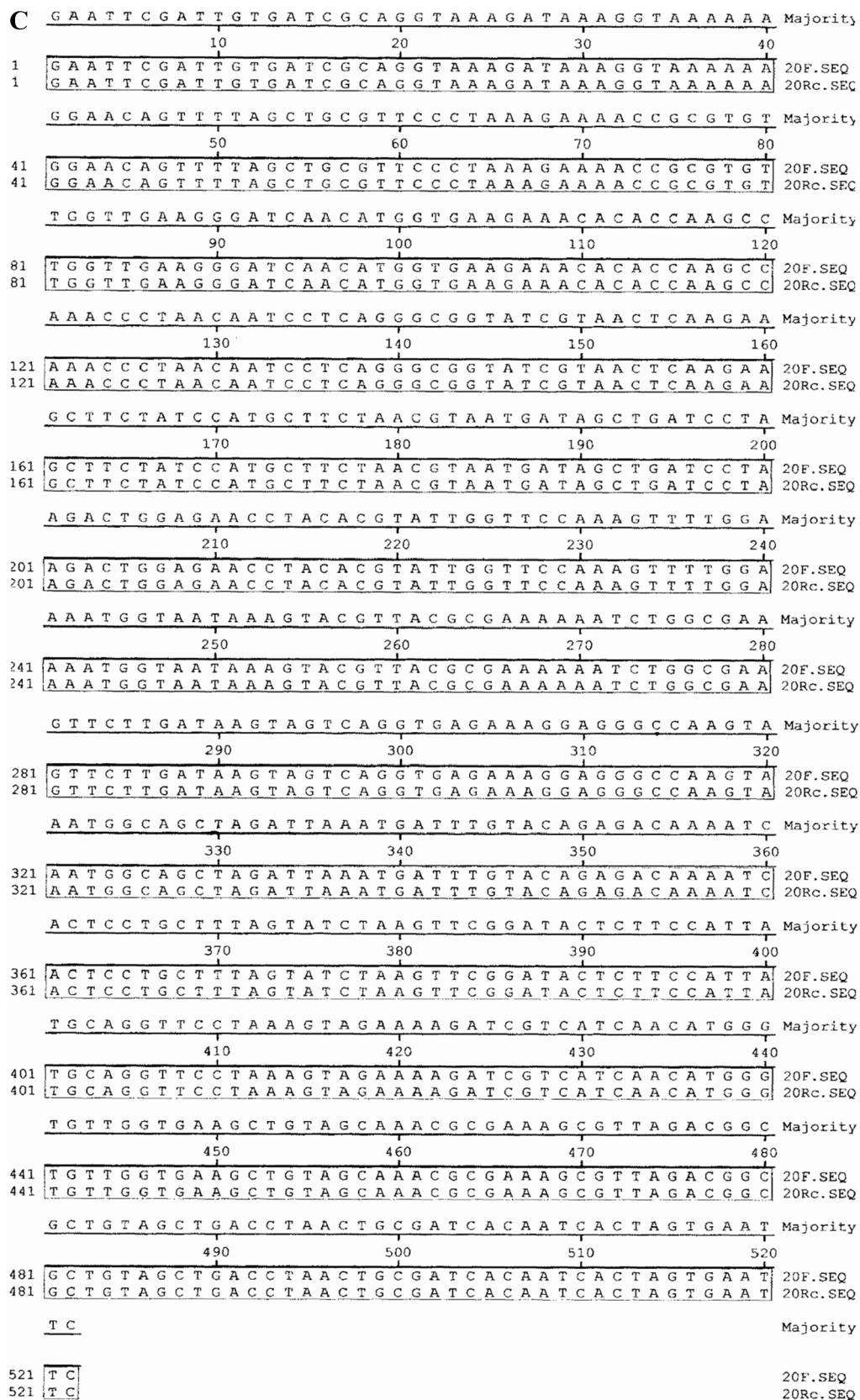


Fig. 2. (continued).

D

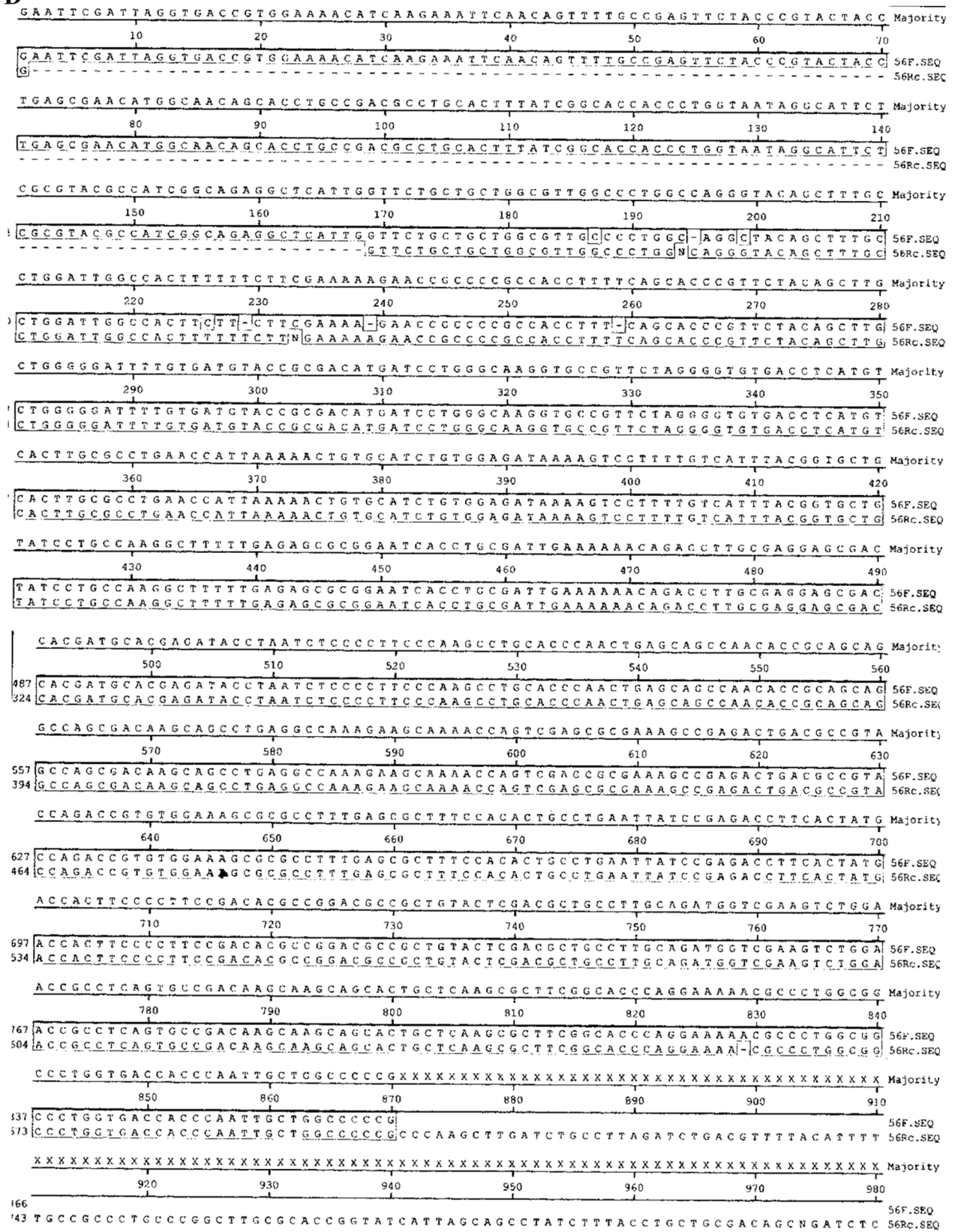


Fig. 2. (continued).

**E**

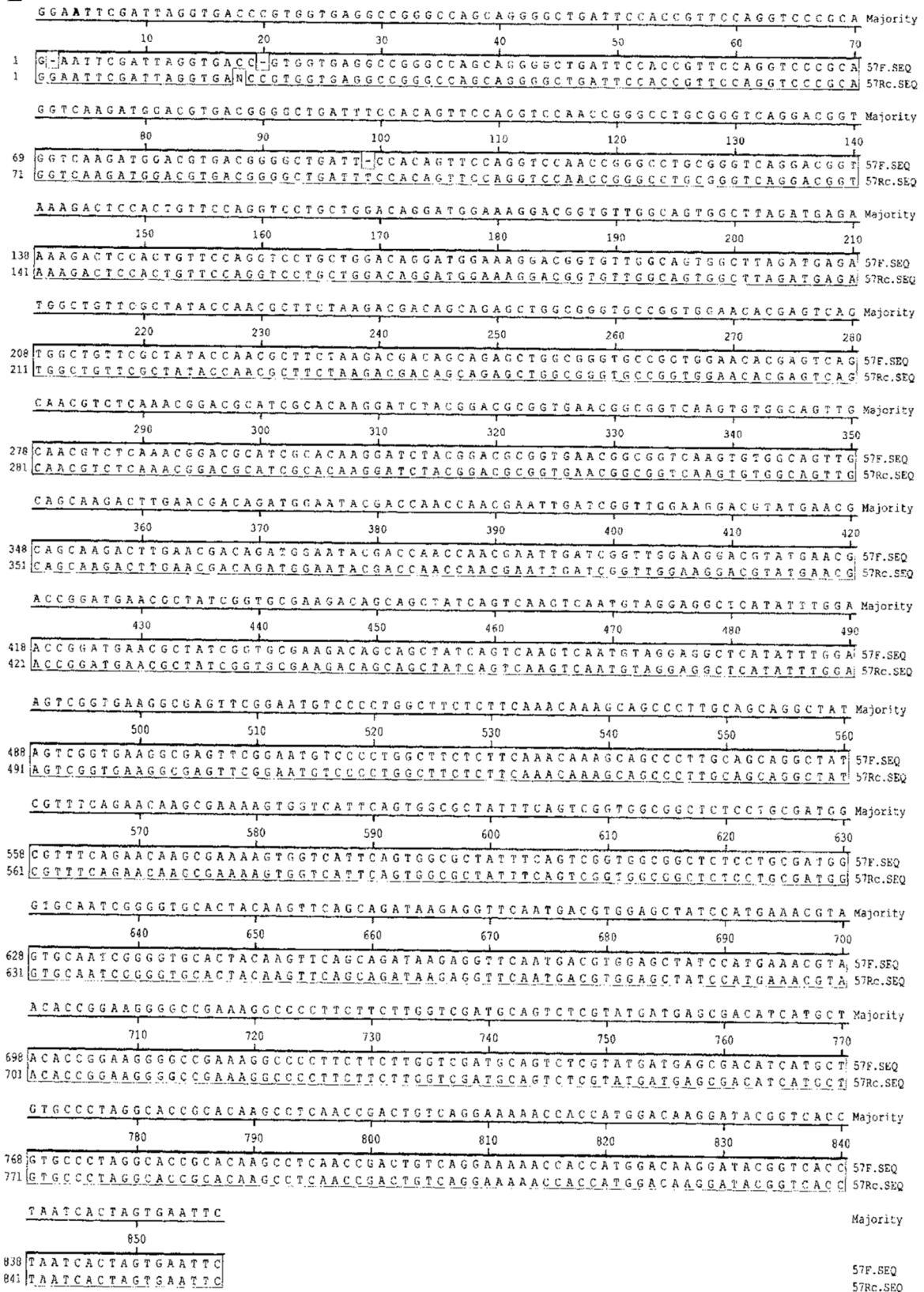


Fig. 2. (continued).

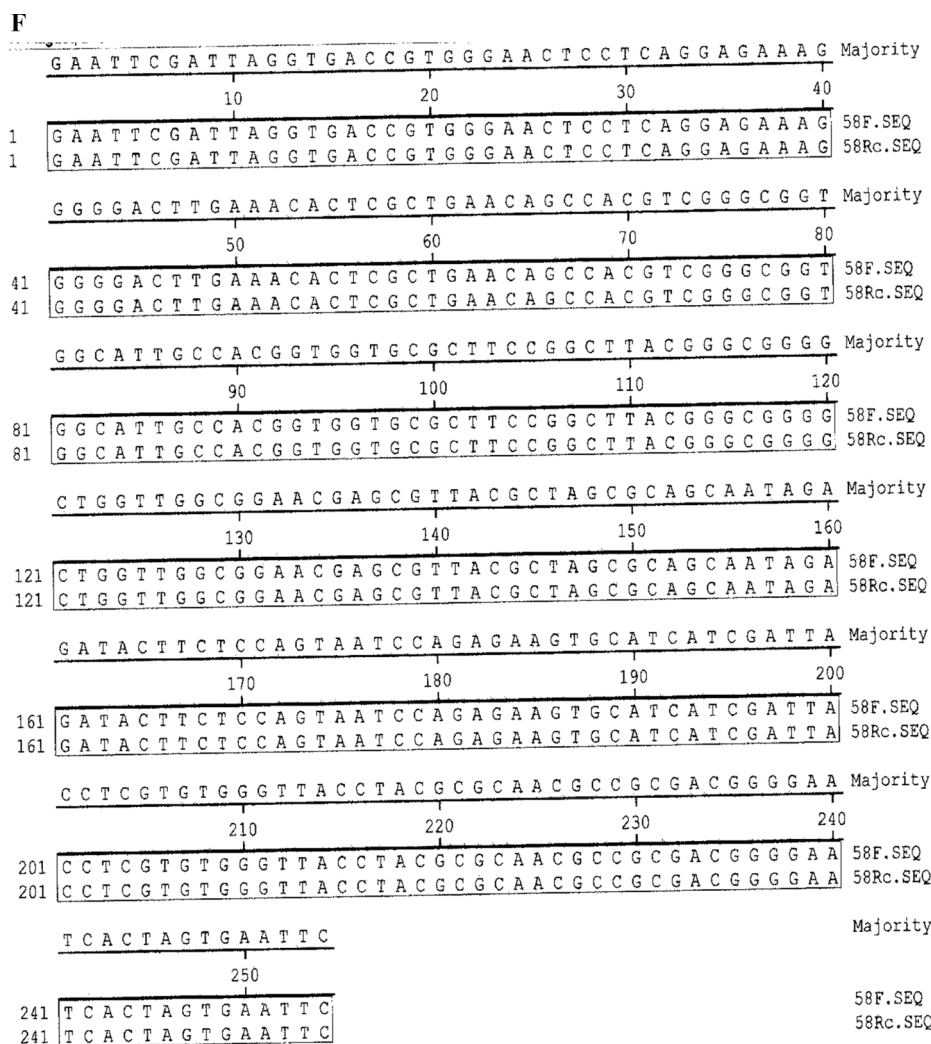


Fig. 2. (continued).

### 3.2. Digestion with *EcoRI* restriction enzyme

The success of the cloning process was confirmed by digesting purified plasmids with *EcoRI* restriction enzyme since the plasmid has two *EcoRI* sites flanking the inserted DNA. As shown in Fig. 1, two bands were observed for each tested sample (compared to the uncut plasmid); the first band represents the linear vector plasmid after being digested with *EcoRI* and the second band represents the DNA fragment of interest with expected size of 600, 870, 1000, and 1350 bp. All the six tested clones have verified the presence of the DNA fragment of interest after digestion.

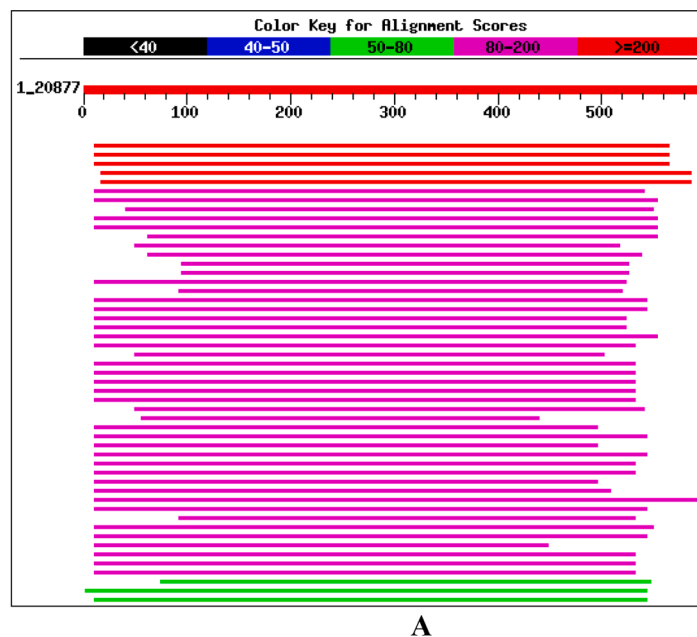
### 3.3. Sequencing of the DNA clones

The six clones (No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58) were sequenced using the DNA BigDye Terminator Sequencing System utilizing the M13 forward or reverse primer found in the pGEM-T Easy vector. Fig. 2A shows the sequence of clone No. 54 with a size of 599 bp. Fig. 2B shows the sequence of clone No. 55 with the size of 566 bp. The size of clone No. 20 is 522 bp as indicated in Fig. 2C. The sequence of clone 56 is 870 bp using the forward primer, the same when using the reverse primer (Fig. 2D). Clone No. 57 (Fig. 2E) shows a sequence of 857 bp. Finally, clone No. 58 with a size of 254 bp is represented in Fig. 2F.

### 3.4. Identification of homologous proteins

Using the DNA BLAST software, the alignment, and homologous protein results of clones No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58 are shown in Fig. 3. A summary of the most homologous protein to the six cloned sequences and their homology percentages is shown in Table 2. The highest score of protein homology was scored for clone No. 54 with 87 % homology to putative secreted pectate lyase [*Streptomyces coelicolor* A3 (2)], 81 % to pectate lyase [*Thermobifida fusca*], 68 % to pectate lyase B [*Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis*], and 61 % to pectate lyase [*Microbulbifer degradans*] (Fig. 3A). The other clones showed less homology as follows: clone No. 55 scored 77 % homology to 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahydropterin synthase [*Kineococcus radiotolerans* SRS30216], 69 % to putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin synthase [*Vibrio parahaemolyticus* RIMD 2210633], 68 % to 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahydropterin synthase [*Vibrio vulnificus* YJ016], and 68 % to 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin synthase, putative [*Vibrio cholera*] (Fig. 3B); clone No. 20 scored 73 % homology to LSU ribosomal protein L24P [*Bacillus cereus* ATCC 14579], 71 % homology to ribosomal protein L24 – *Bacillus stearothermophilus*, 73 % homology to ribosomal protein L24 (BL23) (histone-like protein HPB12) [*Bacillus subtilis*], and 71 % 50S ribosomal protein L24 [*Bacillus halodurans* C-125] (Fig. 3C); clone No. 56 scored 77 % homology to predicted membrane protein [*Pseudomonas fluorescens* PfO-1], 68 % to conserved hypothetical protein [*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. Tomato str. DC3000], 66 % to predicted membrane protein [*Pseudomonas syringae*





Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E Value
<a href="#">gi 21221271 ref NP_627050.1 </a> putative secreted pectate lyas.. <a href="#">344</a>	<a href="#">344</a>	6e-94
<a href="#">gi 48835481 ref ZP_00292481.1 </a> COG3866: Pectate lyase [ <i>Ther.</i> .. <a href="#">327</a>	<a href="#">327</a>	1e-88
<a href="#">gi 9255879 gb AAF86343.1 </a> pectate lyase B [ <i>Pseudoalteromona</i> .. <a href="#">270</a>	<a href="#">270</a>	1e-71
<a href="#">gi 48860626 ref ZP_00314538.1 </a> COG3866: Pectate lyase [ <i>Micr.</i> .. <a href="#">243</a>	<a href="#">243</a>	3e-63
<a href="#">gi 48860627 ref ZP_00314539.1 </a> COG3866: Pectate lyase [ <i>Micr.</i> .. <a href="#">240</a>	<a href="#">240</a>	1e-62
<a href="#">gi 37222165 gb AAP70368.1 </a> PelA [uncultured bacterium] <a href="#">165</a>	<a href="#">165</a>	5e-40
<a href="#">gi 27552303 emb CAD56882.1 </a> pectate lyase [ <i>Bacillus licheni</i> .. <a href="#">153</a>	<a href="#">153</a>	2e-36
<a href="#">gi 48864071 ref ZP_00317964.1 </a> COG3866: Pectate lyase [ <i>Micr.</i> .. <a href="#">151</a>	<a href="#">151</a>	8e-36
<a href="#">gi 4589751 dbj BAA76884.1 </a> pectate lyase [ <i>Bacillus</i> sp.] <a href="#">139</a>	<a href="#">139</a>	4e-32
<a href="#">gi 4589753 dbj BAA76885.1 </a> pectate lyase [ <i>Bacillus</i> sp.] <a href="#">135</a>	<a href="#">135</a>	6e-31
<a href="#">gi 15616381 ref NP_244686.1 </a> high-alkaline pectate lyase [B.. <a href="#">133</a>	<a href="#">133</a>	2e-30
<a href="#">gi 31652279 gb AAF86344.2 </a> pectin methylesterase/pectate ly.. <a href="#">131</a>	<a href="#">131</a>	9e-30
<a href="#">gi 48859774 ref ZP_00313704.1 </a> COG3866: Pectate lyase [Clos.. <a href="#">130</a>	<a href="#">130</a>	2e-29
<a href="#">gi 21232246 ref NP_638163.1 </a> pectate lyase II [ <i>Xanthomonas</i> .. <a href="#">119</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	4e-26
<a href="#">gi 21109296 gb AAM37831.1 </a> pectate lyase II [ <i>Xanthomonas</i> ax.. <a href="#">119</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	4e-26
<a href="#">gi 4191260 emb CAA10642.1 </a> pectate lyase [ <i>Erwinia chrysanth</i> .. <a href="#">108</a>	<a href="#">108</a>	6e-23
<a href="#">gi 129755 sp P04959 PELB_ERWCH</a> Pectate lyase B precursor >g.. <a href="#">105</a>	<a href="#">105</a>	9e-22
<a href="#">gi 28374120 pdb 1O8M A</a> Chain A, Pectate Lyase C From Erwini.. <a href="#">103</a>	<a href="#">103</a>	2e-21
<a href="#">gi 129757 sp P11073 PELC_ERWCH</a> Pectate lyase C precursor >g.. <a href="#">103</a>	<a href="#">103</a>	2e-21
<a href="#">gi 7437077 pir  S25262</a> pectate lyase (EC 4.2.2.2) B precurs.. <a href="#">101</a>	<a href="#">101</a>	9e-21

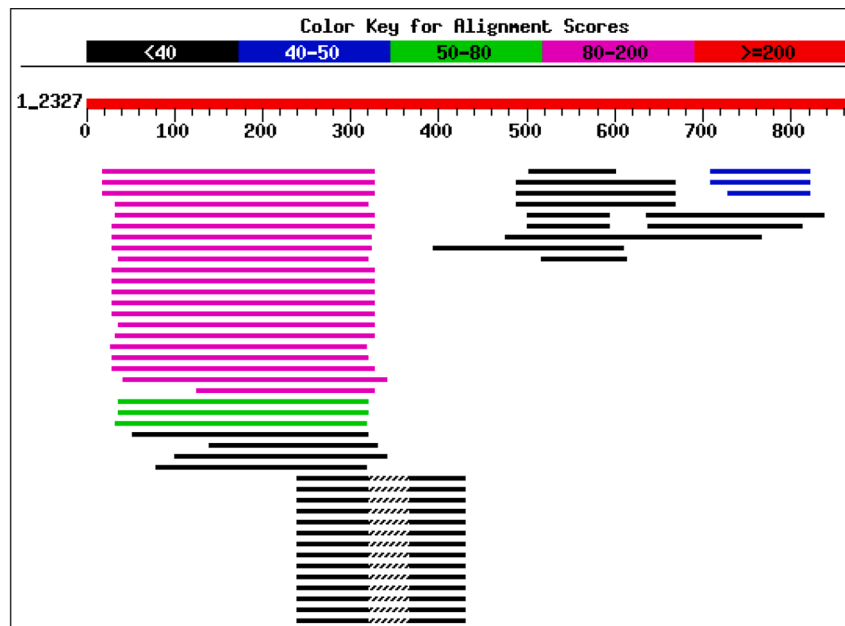
**Fig. 3.** Alignment results for clone (A) No. 54, (B) clone No. 55, (C) clone No. 20, (D) clone No. 56, (E) clone No. 57, (F) clone No. 58, forward sequence using DNA BLAST Software.

pv. syringae B728a], and 66 % to conserved hypothetical protein [*Pseudomonas putida* KT2440] (Fig. 3D); clone No. 57 scored 55 % homology to collagen-like protein B [*Streptococcus pyogenes*] and 37 % to autotransporter adhesin [*Burkholderia cepacia* R18194] (Fig. 3E); clone No. 58 scored 55 % homology to hypothetical protein SAV2797 [*Streptomyces avermitilis* MA-4680], 51 % to 3'-phosphoadenosine 5'-phosphosulfate sulfotransferase (PAPS reductase)/FAD synthetase and related enzymes [*Desulfotobacterium hafniense*], 35 % to hypothetical protein [*Oryza sativa* (japonica cultivar-group)], and 33 % to predicted: like thyroid hormone receptor associated protein 2; protein like TRAP240 [*Gallus gallus*] (Fig. 3F).

#### 4. Discussion

The most common bands of the 6 clones were purified out of the RAPD profile gels and as shown in Table 1, they vary in size. This could be related to the primer being used in that reaction; however, the presence of a shared common band might suggest the existence of certain sequences that are commonly shared among the isolates under investigation (Van Rossum et al., 2020).

The 6 clones No. 54, 55, 20, 56, 57, and 58 were successfully cloned as confirmed by the *EcoRI* digestion of the purified plasmids. Sequencing of these cloned bands indicated size range between 254 and 870 bp, and the pairwise alignment of the clones showed almost exact match. The homologous proteins to the six cloned sequences indicated percentage of homology ranged between 55 % and 87 % with the lowest for clones No.



B

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E Value
<a href="#">gi 48729636 ref ZP_00263386.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..172	7e-42
<a href="#">gi 28852246 gb AAO55320.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..158	2e-37
<a href="#">gi 46187561 ref ZP_00127411.2</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..154	2e-36
<a href="#">gi 24986242 gb AAN70083.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..145	1e-33
<a href="#">gi 17546279 ref NP_519681.1</a>   PUTATIVE TRANSMEMBRANE PROTEIN	..136	5e-31
<a href="#">gi 48772282 ref ZP_00276624.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..132	1e-29
<a href="#">gi 46320677 ref ZP_00221062.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..132	1e-29
<a href="#">gi 46311127 ref ZP_00211738.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..132	1e-29
<a href="#">gi 48788004 ref ZP_00283983.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..130	4e-29
<a href="#">gi 45519206 ref ZP_00170757.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..128	1e-28
<a href="#">gi 49079944 gb AAT49952.1</a>   PA3216 [synthetic construct]	..121	2e-26
<a href="#">gi 15598412 ref NP_251906.1</a>   hypothetical protein [Pseudom.	..121	2e-26
<a href="#">gi 32038289 ref ZP_00136561.1</a>   COG4323: Predicted membrane	..120	4e-26
<a href="#">gi 24373184 ref NP_717227.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..115	1e-24
<a href="#">gi 28829682 gb AAO52198.1</a>   similar to Pseudomonas putida KT	..114	4e-24
<a href="#">gi 16127393 ref NP_421957.1</a>   hypothetical protein [Caulobac.	..104	3e-21
<a href="#">gi 37912887 gb AAR05223.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..99	1e-19
<a href="#">gi 24196457 gb AAN49847.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..98	2e-19
<a href="#">gi 31195801 ref XP_306848.1</a>   ENSANGP00000000102 [Anopheles	..97	6e-19
<a href="#">gi 50084387 ref YP_045897.1</a>   conserved hypothetical protein	..87	4e-16

Fig. 3. (continued).

57 and 58, and highest for clone No. 54.

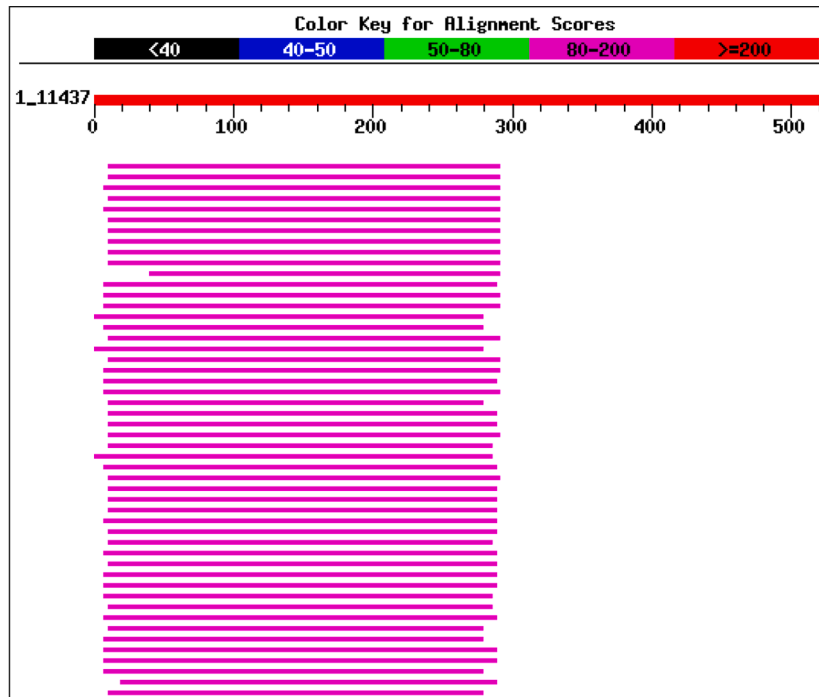
Interestingly, the clone No. 54 exhibited a homology of 87 % with the putative secreted pectate lyase [*Streptomyces coelicolor* A3(2)]. Pectate lyase represents an important member of pectinolytic enzymes that hydrolyze pectins and responsible for the pathogenesis and softening of plant tissues (Hassan et al., 2013). It also has a role in fruit juice clarification and in retting of natural fibers (Amit et al., 2016). Thus, Pectinolytic enzymes derived from natural microorganisms have gained growing interest as potential bio-catalysts suitable for a wide range of applications in industrial processes (Alkorta et al., 1998; Ahlawat et al., 2008). In fact, pectinases have been isolated, purified and characterized from different *Streptomyces* spp. (Ladjama et al., 1991; Saoudi and Ladjama, 2006; Saoudi et al. 2007; Tonouchi et al., 2010; Yuan et al., 2012).

The other homologous protein identified in the same *Streptomyces* spp., *Streptomyces avermitilis* MA-4680, we found another homologous protein located in clone No. 58. However, it's worth noting that this

protein, known as SAV2797, is hypothetical and exhibits a relatively low homology score (55 %). This emphasizes the distinctiveness of clone No. 54 and its vital role in pectate lyase production, as well as its promising potential for future applications. Moreover, the recognition of homologous proteins in species other than *Streptomyces* highlights the uniqueness of clone No. 54 and its promise for future research endeavors.

Identification of homologous proteins arising from DNA cloned fragments deserves deeper molecular investigation through gene expression systems. Additionally, employing Southern blot technique with these cloned DNA fragments as probes holds promise for the precise identification of *Streptomyces* within pure cultures and soil samples.

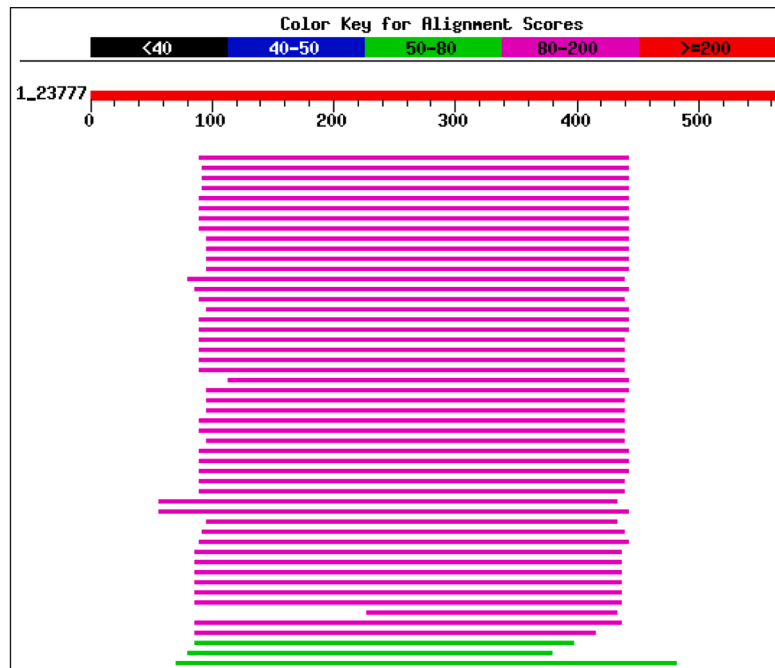
Using *Streptomyces* bacteria to produce pectinolytic enzymes that are important in the food and beverage industry for fruit juice extraction and in waste management to degrade organic matter (Haile and Ayele, 2022) will certainly increase the interest in eco-friendly industries to eradicate environmentally harmful substances and advance the adoption of cleaner, more environmentally friendly technologies and



C

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E value
<a href="#">gi 29893931 gb AAP07223.1 LSU ribosomal protein L24P[Baci..</a>	<a href="#">144</a>	9e-34
<a href="#">gi 132812 sp P04455 RL24 BACST 50S ribosomal protein L24</a>	<a href="#">141</a>	8e-33
<a href="#">gi 16077195 ref NP_388008.1  ribosomal protein L24 (BL23)</a>	<a href="#">140</a>	2e-32
<a href="#">gi 15612708 ref NP_241011.1  50S ribosomal protein L24; rib</a>	<a href="#">138</a>	5e-32
<a href="#">gi 143448 gb AAB59024.1  ribosomal protein L24</a>	<a href="#">138</a>	7e-32
<a href="#">gi 16801831 ref NP_472099.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Lister..</a>	<a href="#">136</a>	2e-31
<a href="#">gi 16804659 ref NP_466144.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Listeri..</a>	<a href="#">136</a>	2e-31
<a href="#">gi 47097192 ref ZP_00234757.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Liste..</a>	<a href="#">136</a>	2e-31
<a href="#">gi 46113288 ref ZP_00182610.2 COG0198: Ribosomal protein L..</a>	<a href="#">131</a>	6e-30
<a href="#">gi 23097585 ref NP_691051.1 50S ribosomal protein L24 [Oce..</a>	<a href="#">130</a>	2e-29
<a href="#">gi 47570518 ref ZP_00241145.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Bacil..</a>	<a href="#">128</a>	7e-29
<a href="#">gi 48765733 ref ZP_00270283.1 COG0198: Ribosomal protein L..</a>	<a href="#">127</a>	9e-29
<a href="#">gi 15604494 ref NP_221012.1 50S RIBOSOMAL PROTEIN L24 (rpl..</a>	<a href="#">121</a>	8e-27
<a href="#">gi 46202025 ref ZP_00053914.2 COG0198: Ribosomal protein L..</a>	<a href="#">120</a>	1e-26
<a href="#">gi 34397847 gb AAQ66908.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Porphyrom..</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	2e-26
<a href="#">gi 21283887 ref NP_646975.1 50S ribosomal protein L24 [Sta..</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	2e-26
<a href="#">gi 29342320 gb AAO80086.1 ribosomal protein L24 [Enterococ..</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	2e-26
<a href="#">gi 27316278 gb AAO05453.1 50S ribosomal protein L24 [Staph..</a>	<a href="#">119</a>	3e-26
<a href="#">gi 48871245 ref ZP_00323961.1 COG0198: Ribosomal protein L..</a>	<a href="#">118</a>	5e-26
<a href="#">gi 15892918 ref NP_360632.1 50S ribosomal protein L24 [Ric..</a>	<a href="#">114</a>	8e-25

Fig. 3. (continued).

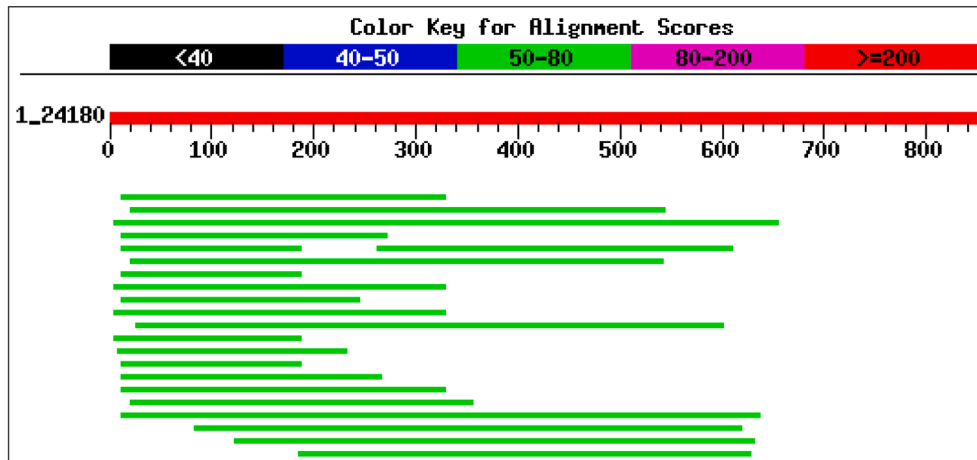


D

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E Value
<a href="#">gi 46366239 ref ZP_00228616.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	198	7e-50
<a href="#">gi 28898657 ref NP_798262.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydro..	188	7e-47
<a href="#">gi 37680272 ref NP_934881.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahydropterin sy..	187	1e-46
<a href="#">gi 9655787 gb AAF94458.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin sy..	186	2e-46
<a href="#">gi 48729945 ref ZP_00263694.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	186	3e-46
<a href="#">gi 23105387 ref ZP_00091843.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	186	3e-46
<a href="#">gi 32037704 ref ZP_00135976.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	186	3e-46
<a href="#">gi 46187340 ref ZP_00205296.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	185	4e-46
<a href="#">gi 16761721 ref NP_457338.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydro..	185	6e-46
<a href="#">gi 15832874 ref NP_311647.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydro..	183	2e-45
<a href="#">gi 30042370 gb AAP18095.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobi..	183	2e-45
<a href="#">gi 24053178 gb AAN44270.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobi..	183	2e-45
<a href="#">gi 15836798 ref NP_297486.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin..	182	4e-45
<a href="#">gi 21230064 ref NP_635981.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin..	182	5e-45
<a href="#">gi 26109570 gb AAN81773.1 </a> Putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobi..	182	5e-45
<a href="#">gi 50122474 ref YP_051641.1 </a> putative 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydro..	182	5e-45
<a href="#">gi 24983893 gb AAN67954.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin s..	181	6e-45
<a href="#">gi 28853842 gb AAO56908.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin s..	181	1e-44
<a href="#">gi 21109994 gb AAM38457.1 </a> 6-pyruvoyl tetrahydrobiopterin s..	180	1e-44
<a href="#">gi 22997319 ref ZP_00041552.1 </a> COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahyd..	179	2e-44

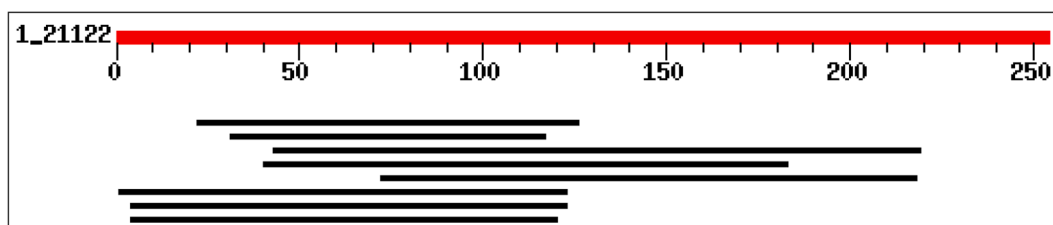
Fig. 3. (continued).





E

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E Value
<a href="#">gi 13560506 gb AAK30079.1</a> collagen-like protein B [Strepto..	65	2e-09
<a href="#">gi 46313782 ref ZP_00214370.1</a> COG5295: Autotransporter adh..	64	3e-09
<a href="#">gi 48785126 ref ZP_00281431.1</a> COG5295: Autotransporter adh..	64	6e-09
<a href="#">gi 13235586 emb CAC33776.1</a> SclB protein [Streptococcus pyo..	63	9e-09
<a href="#">gi 46322025 ref ZP_00222398.1</a> COG5295: Autotransporter adh..	62	2e-08
<a href="#">gi 13235592 emb CAC33779.1</a> SclB protein [Streptococcus pyo..	62	2e-08
<a href="#">gi 13560496 gb AAK30077.1</a> collagen-like protein B [Strepto..	62	2e-08
<a href="#">gi 20178621 gb AAL50184.1</a> collagen-like protein 2 [Strepto..	60	5e-08
<a href="#">gi 39593008 emb CAE62622.1</a> Hypothetical protein CBG06744 ..	60	6e-08
<a href="#">gi 23115364 ref ZP_00100473.1</a> COG5295: Autotransporter adh..	59	1e-07
<a href="#">gi 45516184 ref ZP_00167737.1</a> COG5295: Autotransporter adh..	59	2e-07
<a href="#">gi 13235584 emb CAC33775.1</a> SclB protein [Streptococcus pyo..	59	2e-07
<a href="#">gi 156286 gb AAA28008.1</a> Collagen protein 91 [Caenorhabditi..	58	2e-07
<a href="#">gi 50914143 ref YP_060115.1</a> Collagen-like surface protein ..	58	2e-07
<a href="#">gi 15675046 ref NP_269220.1</a> putative collagen-like protein..	58	3e-07
<a href="#">gi 13235596 emb CAC33780.1</a> SclB protein [Streptococcus pyo..	58	3e-07
<a href="#">gi 21904469 gb AAM79345.1</a> collagen-like protein SclB [Stre..	57	5e-07
<a href="#">gi 25150119 ref NP_505374.2</a> COLlagen structural gene (col..	57	5e-07
<a href="#">gi 7494765 pir T29837</a> hypothetical protein B0222.6 - Caeno..	57	5e-07
<a href="#">gi 17559056 ref NP_505376.1</a> COLlagen structural gene (col..	57	5e-07



F

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score (bits)	E Value
<a href="#">gi 29829339 ref NP_823973.1</a> hypothetical protein SAV2797	38	0.081
<a href="#">gi 23119687 ref ZP_00102664.1</a> COG0175: 3'-phosphoadenosine..	35	0.69
<a href="#">gi 50943373 ref XP_481214.1</a> hypothetical protein [Oryza sa..	33	2.0
<a href="#">gi 50756777 ref XP_415317.1</a> PREDICTED: similar to thyroid ..	32	3.4
<a href="#">gi 21219580 ref NP_625359.1</a> putative sugar transport sugar..	31	7.6
<a href="#">gi 23129915 ref ZP_00111736.1</a> COG3409: Putative peptidogly..	31	10.0
<a href="#">gi 50755581 ref XP_429437.1</a> PREDICTED: hypothetical protei..	31	10.0
<a href="#">gi 32415868 ref XP_328412.1</a> predicted protein [Neurospora ..	31	10.0

Fig. 3. (continued).

**Table 2**

Summary of the most homologous proteins to the six cloned sequences and their homology percentages.

Clone No.	Homologous Protein	Homology (%)
54	Putative secreted pectate lyase <i>Streptomyces coelicolor</i> A3	87
55	COG0720: 6-pyruvoyl-tetrahydropterin synthase <i>Kineococcus radiotolerans</i> SRS30216	77
20	50S ribosomal protein L24 <i>Bacillus stearothermophilus</i>	73
56	Predicted membrane protein <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> PfO-1	77
57	Collagen-like protein B <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	55
58	Hypothetical protein SAV2797 <i>Streptomyces avermitilis</i> MA-4680	55

procedures.

## 5. Conclusion

The association of homologous proteins (pectate lyase) to RAPD analysis of the dominant white and gray aerial mycelium-bearing *Streptomyces* isolates is reported for the first time. This breakthrough underscores the potential for advancing our understanding of *Streptomyces* diversity and ecology.

## Ethical disclosures

The authors confirm that this research adheres to the ethical standards relevant to the field of study, with no animal experimentation or patient data collection, demonstrating their commitment to maintaining research integrity.

## Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

## Acknowledgments

Jordan University of Science and Technology (Grant No. 70/2003) funded this research. Appreciation is extended to University of Sharjah/ UAE for administrative support.

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