



Draft Genome Sequences of 10 Strains of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* Biovar 1, a Major Kiwifruit Bacterial Canker Pathogen in Japan

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ABSTRACT Several groups (biovars) of the kiwifruit bacterial canker pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* are found in Japan. Here, we sequenced and compared 10 genome sequences of biovar 1, a major group in Japan, which is known as the phaseolotoxin producer.

The kiwifruit bacterial canker pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* was first described in Japan in 1989 (1). Subsequently, *P. syringae* pv. *actinidiae* was found in other kiwifruit-producing countries (2). Based on comparative analyses (2–4), *P. syringae* pv. *actinidiae* was categorized into several groups (biovars). The first Japanese group was named biovar 1 (*P. syringae* pv. *actinidiae* biovar 1 [Psa1]), which was also found in Korea in 1989 (2, 5) and in Italy in 1992 (2, 5). This biovar produces phaseolotoxin (2), a phytotoxin that inhibits arginine biosynthesis in host plants and results in bacterial canker symptom development. On the Psa1 chromosome, a large number of genes involved in phaseolotoxin biosynthesis are accumulated in an approximately 23-kb region (*argK-tox* cluster), which is contained in an exogenous genomic island (*tox* island) that Psa1 acquired in the past (2). However, some Psa1 strains found in Ehime Prefecture, Japan (the Ehime isolates), do not produce phaseolotoxin, although they seem to possess the *argK-tox* cluster (6, 7). On the other hand, several Psa1 strains preserved in the NARO genebank (https://www.gene.affrc.go.jp/index_en.php) may lack this cluster (2, 7). Here, we selected 10 strains from the NARO genebank collection (Table 1) that represent Psa1 diversity and conducted comparative genome analyses.

The strains were cultivated in yeast-peptone (YP) broth at 27°C for 1 day with agitation at 140 rpm. Then, 1-ml aliquots of each culture were used for genomic DNA extraction with a DNeasy minikit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). Genomic DNA was sequenced using an Ion Personal Genome Machine (PGM) sequencer with an Ion PGM Hi-Q view OT2 kit (for the library preparation), an Ion PGM Hi-Q view sequencing kit (for the sequencing), and a 318 Chip kit v2 (for the sequencing) (all from Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc., Waltham, MA, USA). The sequence reads were quality controlled (quality score, <20), and adapter sequences were removed using CLC Genomics Workbench v12 (Qiagen). Using these reads, multiple contigs (filtered with a size longer than 500 bp) were assembled *de novo* using the same software with default parameters (mapping mode = Create simple contig sequences [fast], automatic bubble size = yes, minimum contig length = 500, automatic word size = yes, performing scaffolding = yes, auto-detect paired distances = yes). The draft genomes were annotated using the NCBI Prokaryotic Genome Annotation Pipeline (PGAP) v4. 1 (8).

The guanine and cytosine (G+C) contents and genome sizes for these strains were found to be 58.2% to 58.8% and 4.9 to 6.3 Mbp, respectively (Table 1). PGAP identified 5,606 to 6,432 genes, including multiple rRNA and tRNA genes. In addition, the *argK-tox* cluster of each strain was sequenced by genome walking. Namely, multiple primers

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TABLE 1 Genome data and accession numbers of strains of *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. actinidiae biovar 1 and detail for the *argK-tox* gene cluster

Strain	Genome information				PGAP ^a annotation				Read information			argK-tox gene cluster information ^b			
	Isolation host, prefecture, yr	GenBank accession no.	Genome size (bp)	G+C content (mol %)	No. of contigs (N ₅₀ [bp])	Total no. of genes	No. of rRNAs (5S, 16S, 23S)	No. of tRNAs	SRA ^c accession no.	No. of reads (avg length [bp])	Genome coverage (x)	Phaseolotoxin synthesis ^d	argK-tox gene cluster	argK-tox gene cluster accession no.	Detail
MAFF 302091	<i>Actinidia deliciosa</i> , Kanagawa, 1984	JAAAEYK0000000000	4,916,203	58.2	2,497 (2,502)	6,374	2, 1, 1	29	SRR11730631	60,196 (236)	7.7	+	+	MT551019	Same sequence as ICMP 9617
MAFF 302133	<i>Actinidia argute</i> , Kanagawa, 1987	JAAAEYI0000000000	5,928,911	58.8	653 (14,454)	5,654	3, 1, 1	39	SRR11730639	262,576 (221)	26.4	+	+	MT551015	Same sequence as ICMP 9617
MAFF 302145	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Wakayama, 1988	JAAAEYG0000000000	5,164,482	58.4	2,311 (3,012)	6,432	3, 1, 2	28	SRR11730634	97,845 (210)	8.0	+	+	MT551014	Same sequence as ICMP 9617
MAFF 613024	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Shizuoka, 1995	JAAAEYH0000000000	4,927,103	58.2	2,470 (2,552)	6,335	2, 1, 1	28	SRR11730633	57,728 (235.6)	7.2	+	+	MT551013	Same sequence as ICMP 9617
MAFF 211985	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Ehime, 2000	SMHD0000000000	5,951,025	58.8	475 (26,121)	5,880	2, 1, 1	44	SRR11730626	286,416 (231.9)	100.1	+	+	MT551017	Synonymous substitution (silent mutation) in some coding genes against ICMP 9617
MAFF 211981	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Ehime, 2000	JAAAEYJ0000000000	5,947,905	58.8	524 (19,906)	5,628	3, 1, 1	41	SRR11730636	527,346 (221.5)	42.3	-	+	MT551016	Synonymous substitution (silent mutation) in some coding genes against ICMP 9617; frameshift mutation in the fatty acid desaturase gene due to the insertion of a single G
MAFF 211983	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Ehime, 2000	JAAAEYF0000000000	5,236,580	58.4	2,155 (3,303)	6,342	1, 1, 1	34	SRR11730632	114,619 (230.7)	8.6	-	+	MT551018	Synonymous substitution (silent mutation) in some coding genes against ICMP 9617; frameshift mutation in the fatty acid desaturase gene due to the insertion of a single G
MAFF 613017	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Shizuoka, 1986	JAAEYL0000000000	5,999,477	58.8	494 (23,006)	5,606	3, 1, 1	44	SRR11730635	813,046 (215.5)	65.0	-	-	-	Absence of tox island
MAFF 613018	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Shizuoka, 1986	JAAEYM0000000000	5,821,751	58.8	1,046 (9,663)	5,914	1, 1, 1	39	SRR11730637	151,420 (215.5)	16.3	-	-	-	Absence of tox island
MAFF 212324	<i>A. deliciosa</i> , Shizuoka, unknown	JAAEYN0000000000	6,327,049	58.6	609 (17,836)	6,120	2, 1, 1	37	SRR11730638	407,967 (237.2)	34.9	-	-	-	Absence of tox island

^a PGAP, NCBI Prokaryote Genome Annotation Pipeline.

^b +, presence; -, absence.

^c SRA, Sequence Read Archive.

^d This information comes from Sawada (7).

were designed with reference to the contig sequences obtained in this study, a large number of amplified fragments of 300 to 600 bp were obtained, and the full sequences of the cluster region were determined by Sanger sequencing. The obtained sequences (Table 1) were compared with the reference genome (GenBank accession no. [CM002753](https://doi.org/10.1093/mra/cm002753)) of ICMP 9617 (pathotype strain of *P. syringae* pv. *actinidiae*), indicating that some strains have synonymous substitutions (silent mutations) in the cluster. Moreover, in the Ehime isolates (MAFF 211981 and MAFF 211983), it was clarified that a frameshift mutation in the fatty acid desaturase gene occurred due to a single G insertion, possibly resulting in the loss of the ability to produce phaseolotoxin. In the assemblies of MAFF 613017, MAFF 613018, and MAFF 212324, the *tox* island containing the *argK-tox* cluster could not be found, suggesting that the ancestors of these strains may not have experienced the island acquisition event. The fact that such diversification has occurred in the *argK-tox* cluster is an important piece of evidence for elucidating the pathogenicity, ecology, and evolution of Psal.

Data availability. All sequences identified in this study have been deposited in GenBank (see Table 1 for accession numbers).

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