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# Genome analysis of *Lysinibacillus sphaericus* isolate 6.2 pathogenic to *Culex quinquefasciatus* Say, 1823 (Diptera: Culicidae)

#### AFIANNISA VIERSANOVA, HARI PURWANTO

Faculty of Biology, Universitas Gadjah Mada. Jl. Teknika Selatan, Sekip Utara, Bulaksumur, Sleman 55281, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Tel./fax.: +62-274-580839, Vemail: hari.purwanto@ugm.ac.id

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**Abstract.** Viersanova A, Purwanto H. 2021. Genome analysis of Lysinibacillus sphaericus isolate 6.2 pathogenic to Culex quinquefasciatus Say, 1823 (Diptera: Culicidae). Biodiversitas 22: 5211-5222. Lysinibacillus sphaericus is an entomopathogenic bacteria that is specific to vector mosquitoes, especially Culex spp., and Anopheles spp., so it has been widely used as a bioinsecticide. L. sphaericus has a wide variation of toxicity efficiencies, which have led to continuous exploration of new isolates with higher toxicity and a new toxin to deal with resistance problems. This study aimed to identify the genomic characteristics and toxin characteristics of isolate 6.2 based on whole genome analysis and analyze the identification of isolate 6.2. Isolate 6.2 was previously obtained from rhizosphere in Yogyakarta. To analyze the genome and toxins, the NGS technique was used and then the analysis was carried out using a couple of freely available bioinformatics tools. Molecular identification was carried out with the 16SrRNA gene and the relationship was analyzed by reconstructing the phylogenetic tree using Neighbours-Joining. The genomic analysis of isolate 6.2 showed good results with G+C content and genome size that matched the reference genome of L. sphaericus. The result of the 16SrRNA gene blasting showed that the closest related gene of isolate 6.2 is L. fusiformis (NR\_042072.1). However, the reconstructed phylogenetic tree did not show the formation of clusters according to the species. Toxin analysis indicates that isolate 6.2 has Mtx, s-layer protein, hemolysin, and chitin-binding protein genes. All of which are known to be associated with the toxicity of L. sphaericus to binary toxin resistant population of Culex quinquefasciatus.

 $\textbf{Keywords:} \ \textit{Culex quinque fasciatus}, \ \text{entomopathogen, genome sequencing}, \ \textit{Lysinibacillus sphaericus}$ 

**Abbreviations:** CDS: coding sequence, NGS: next-generation sequencing, CBP: chitin-binding protein, LPMO: lytic polysaccharide monooxygenase, Mbp: megabase pairs

## INTRODUCTION

Lysinibacillus sphaericus Neide is one of bacterium that is widely used as bioinsecticide and a part of vector control programs for infectious tropical diseases, such as malaria, filariasis, yellow fever, dengue fever, and West Nile virus (Poopathi and Abidha 2010; Berry 2012). Even so, not all L. sphaericus strains show toxicity against mosquitoes. L. sphaericus has a very wide genetic variation (Berry 2012). This fact creates many opportunities for the identification and exploration of new L. sphaericus strains with more toxic proteins or at least different protein structures.

Based on the degree of toxicity, *L. sphaericus* strains with mosquitocidal activity were divided into two groups, namely high and low levels of toxicity (Charles et al. 1996). Strains with high levels of toxicity produce binary toxins encoded by the BinA and BinB genes in the sporulation phase. While both strains with high and low levels of toxicity synthesize Mosquitocidal toxin (Mtx) during their vegetative cell growth (Clark and Baumann 1991). Decades later, it was found that the larvicidal toxicity of *L. sphaericus* also be caused by the expression of the Cry48/Cry49 toxin genes and S-layer protein (Jones et al. 2007; Lozano et al. 2011).

The most common toxins found in strains with high toxicity levels are binary toxins (BinA and BinB). This

binary toxin gene is known to have a low variation. This means that the binary toxins in all strains with a high level of toxicity have genetic similarities. The gene coding for the binary toxin is highly conserved among strains, and until now, only five variations have been reported. This variation does not exist at the active site and the difference is no more than six amino acids in each protein between the two variants (Hire et al. 2009; Berry 2012). This low genetic variation in the binary toxin means that only a few toxin options can be used. Meanwhile, the uncontrolled use of L. sphaericus isolate with certain toxin genes can cause a resistance reaction against the target (Silva-Filha et al. 2014). Therefore, research continues to be developed to find a new collection of isolates that produce toxins that are more effective and solve the resistance problem. The discovery of new toxins can potentially overcome resistance cases against binary toxin genes began to appear. To detect the presence of a new toxin protein gene in an isolate, a bacterial genome sequence analysis using Next Generation Sequencing is promising method because it is a more easy, fast, and inexpensive one (van Dijk et al. 2014).

Previous study conducted in our lab was succeeded in isolating *L. sphaericus* from root-soil samples (rhizosphere). The pathogenicity test of this isolate, designated as isolate 6.2. showed higher pathogenicity compared to the strain 1593 that was used as positive

control (Indayati and Purwanto 2021). However, the molecular characteristics and types of toxins produced by this isolate have not yet been elucidated.

In order to develop *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2 as a biolarvicide, it is necessary to ascertain the identity of the isolate, which until now was identified as *L. sphaericus* using morphological characters only. This study aimed to identify the genomic characteristics and toxin characteristics of isolate 6.2 based on whole genome analysis and analyze the identification of isolate 6.2. The results of this study provide basic information needed for the development of bacterial isolates with pathogenic toxins against vector mosquitoes.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Research materials

Isolate 6.2, which was identified as *L. sphaericus* based on its morphological appearance, was isolated from the collection of the Entomology Laboratory, Faculty of Biology, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. This isolate was previously taken from soil around plant root (rhizosphere) in Yogyakarta.

#### **Procedures**

Isolate 6.2 was prepared for shipment to MicrobesNG (Birmingham, UK) as a genome analysis service provider according to provided protocol. Sample preparation was carried out by mixing the pure isolate from agar slope with Ringer solution and streaked on the agar plate media (1/3 of the plate was filled with bacteria, while the remaining 2/3 was streaked out) and incubated until abundant growth, and then checked on phase-contrast microscope for culture purity. The bacterial culture then taken from the agar plate and mixed with preservative solution into the barcoded bead tube provided by MicrobesNG. The tube was homogenized by inverting up and down 10 times, and then sent to MicrobesNG at room temperature. The samples then went through the DNA isolation and genome sequencing analysis processes. The sample preparation, DNA isolation, and genome sequencing analysis processes were carried out based on the protocol determined by MicrobesNG (MicrobesNG 2018).

#### Data analysis

Contigs assembly

The sequenced bacterial genome then went through the contigs assembly stage as the first data analysis process. This process includes reads trimming, identification of reading quality, contigs assembly (de novo assembled), and identification of quality of assembled contigs. This process is performed by the sequencing service provider, MicrobesNG using software that conforms to their protocol, Trimmomatic for reads trimming, SPAdes for contigs assembly, and QUAST for assessing the quality of contigs (MicrobesNG 2021).

## Genome annotation

Genome annotation aims to identify functional elements along the genome sequence. It was performed using Bowtie

2 (Langmead and Salzberg 2012), RAST (Overbeek et al. 2014), and Prokka 1.11 (Seemann 2014) to annotate with reference genomes. Genome annotation using Prokka is carried out by the sequencing service provider. Meanwhile, genome annotation with RAST and alignment of sequenced reads to long reference sequences with Bowtie 2 was carried out via the KBase facility (https://www.kbase.us/) (Arkin et al. 2018). The gene encoding binary toxin (BinA and BinB), Mtx toxin, crystalline toxin (cry48/ cry49), Slayer protein, hemolysin, and chitin-binding protein genes were detected by BLASTP and COBALT Multiple Alignment on the NCBI website (Krauthammer et al. 2000) and Mauve tool (Darling et al. 2004).

Molecular Identification and biological relationship analysis

Molecular identification was carried out using the 16S rRNA gene obtained by cutting the 16S rRNA sequence from the genomic annotation results with Artemis (Rutherford et al. 2000). The 16S rRNA gene sequence was then analyzed using Nucleotide BLAST on the NCBI website (https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cg). The results of the Nucleotide BLAST analysis are in the form of percent identity and query coverage that shows the similarity of the sample to the species in the GenBank database. The results obtained are then used to predict the sample species.

The relationship among taxa can be determined by conducting phylogenetic analysis. Phylogenetic relationships are visualized in the form of a phylogenetic tree which is a diagram showing the relationships among organisms based on genetic characters and evolutionary relationships. The sequences were first aligned using Mega X, which is aligned by ClustalW. Furthermore, the phylogenetic tree was reconstructed using the Neighbor-Joining method and the Kimura 2-Parameter (K2P) model (Kimura 1980) with a 1000 bootstrap. Phylogenetic tree reconstruction was carried out with Mega X (Kumar et al. 2018) between L. sphaericus isolate 6.2 juxtaposed with reference isolates identified as strains with high toxicity to mosquito larvae, C3-41 (Hu et al. 2008), 2362 (Hernández-Santana et al. 2016), and OT4b.25 (Rey et al. 2016); non-toxic strains KCTC 3346T or DSM 28 (Jeong et al. 2013), OT4b.31 (Dussán et al. 2002), and B1-CDA (strains with the ability to accumulate arsenic) (Rahman et al. 2016)), and L. fusiformis, L. macroides, and Bacillus subtilis as outgroups (Table 1).

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Genome characteristic and sequencing quality assessment

The sequence results of *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2 showed that the quality of reads and genome sequences met the requirements and has a good quality coverage. This is indicated by the high coverage value, which is  $76\times$ . The quality of de novo sequence data coverage depends on the size and continuity of the contig (the number of gaps in the data). For a whole genome sequencing study, recommended coverage that is stated to be of good quality is  $30-50\times$  per genome (Illumina Inc. 2017).

**Table 1.** Sequence of 16S rRNA used to conduct the phylogenetic analysis

Species	Isolate	Accession number
Lysinibacillus sphaericus	6.2	
L. sphaericus	C3-41	DQ286309.1
L. sphaericus	OT4b.25	JQ744623.1
L. sphaericus	2362	JX535356.1
L. sphaericus	OT4b.31	JQ744623.1
L. sphaericus	NBRC 15095	NR 112627.1
L. sphaericus	DSM 28	NR 042073.1
L. sphaericus	B1-CDA	KF 961041.1
L. fusiformis	C5	HF 952729.1
L. fusiformis	DSM 2898	NR 042072.1
L. fusiformis	NBRC 15717	NR 112628.1
L. fusiformis	NBRC 15717	NR 112569.1
L. fusiformis		AB 662957.1
L. macroides	PWS-1	LC557047.1
L. macroides	LMG 18474	NR 114920.1
Bacillus subtilis	IAM 12118	NR 112116.2

Based on the assembly metrics that measure the quality of contigs, this sequence is classified as good to best. This classification is based on the value of the G + C content, the number of contigs, the total size of the genome, and the values of N50, N75, L50, and L75. The results of the assembly metrics show that the G+C content is 37.1%, the number of contigs is 62 with the largest contigs size of 1,535,091 bp, the total size of the genome sequence of 4,685,755 bp, and the value of N50, N75, L50, and L75 of 1,366,529, 211,746, 2, and 5 respectively (Table 2).

Genome annotation is carried out to identify the functional elements along with the genome sequences that have been arranged in the previous stage. Information on the functional elements identified in each genome sequence of the five isolates was then affixed to the sequence which was then stored in the GenBank format (.gbk) for later visualization with Artemis. The results of the genomic annotation with RASTtk for each isolate covering various functional categories are presented in Table 3.

#### Molecular identification

The bacterial genome obtained was identified for the presence of the 16S rRNA gene for molecular identification purposes, then searched for its equivalent using the online Nucleotide **BLAST** on the **NCBI** website (https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi). From the analysis, it is obtained the query cover value and the similarity value which is indicated by the identity value. The higher value of this parameter and the more similar the order of the sample based on the DNA database (Aprilyanto and Sembiring 2016). Isolate 6.2 had the highest similarity with L. fusiformis (NR\_042072.1). The top five results show very small differences in similarity with each other (Table 4).

Table 2. Assembly metrics result

Statistics	Isolate 6.2
Contigs (>= 0 bp)	62
Contigs (>=1000 bp)	26
Contigs (>=5000 bp)	21
Contigs (>=10.000 bp)	20
Contigs (>=25.000 bp)	17
Contigs (>=50.000 bp)	15
Largest contigs	1.535.091
Total length	4.685.755
Total length ( $\geq 0$ bp)	4.694.566
Total length (>=1000 bp)	4.682.721
Total length (>=5000 bp)	4.673.724
Total length (>=10.000 bp)	4.667.857
Total length (>=25.000 bp)	4.621.417
Total length (>=50.000 bp)	4.566.204
N50	1.366.529
N75	211.746
L50	2
L75	5
GC (%)	37.1
Mismatches	
N's	0
N's per 100 kbp	0
Worst Median Best	

**Table 3.** Genome annotation result of *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2

Statistic	Isolate 6.2
Number of features	4792
Genetic code	11
Functional categories	
Carbohydrates	264
Respiration	37
Nucleosides and nucleotides	57
Stress response	46
Protein metabolism	105
Regulation and cell signaling	23
Cell wall and capsule	66
Miscellaneous	10
RNA metabolism	71
Metabolism of aromatic compounds	28
Clustering-based subsystems	59
Phosphorous metabolism	32
Secondary metabolism	7
Dormancy and sporulation	38
Amino acid and derivatives	279
Iron metabolism	42
Phages, prophages, transposable elements, plasmid	8
Cell division and cell cycle	34
Membrane transport	50
Nitrogen metabolism	29
Sulfur metabolism	13
DNA metabolism	72
Cofactors, vitamins, prosthetic groups, and pigments	134
Fatty acids, lipids, and isoprenoids	68
Virulence, disease, and defense	41
Potassium metabolism	5
Motility and chemotaxis	74

Table 4. BLAST analysis result of 16S rRNA gene

Isolate	Closest sequence in GenBank	Accession number	Query cover	Identity	Reference
6.2	L. fusiformis	NR_042072.1	98%	99.72%	Swiderski (2001)
	L. fusiformis	NR_112569.1	97%	99.72%	Matsuda (2005)
	L. fusiformis	NR_112628.1	97%	99.72%	Miyashita (2006)
	L. sphaericus	NR_042073.1	98%	99.3%	Swiderski (2001)
	L. sphaericus	NR_112627.1	97%	99.29%	Miyashita (2006)

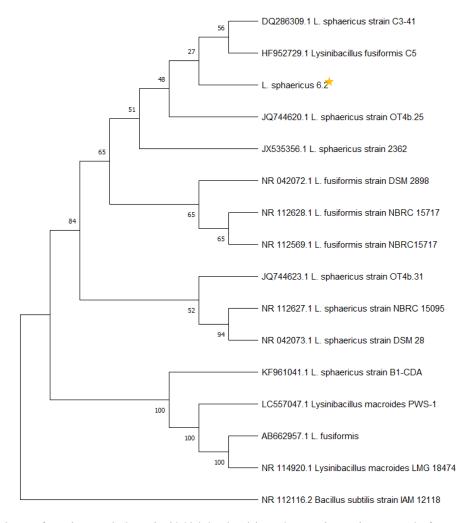


Figure 1. Phylogenetic tree of L. sphaericus isolate 6.2 with high-level toxicity and non-toxic L. sphaericus and reference strain of L. fusiformis

Phylogenetic tree reconstruction using 16S rRNA sequences on isolate 6.2 samples was conducted using MegaX software with ingroup and outgroup comparison sequence data downloaded from the NCBI website (Figure 1 The 16S rRNA sequences of strain with high-level toxicity, such as C3-41, 2362, and OT4b.25, 16S rRNA sequences of non-toxic strain, such as OT4b.31, DSM 28 or KCTC 3346T, and B1-CDA (strains with the ability to accumulate arsenic), and *L. macrolides, L. fusiformis*, and *Bacillus subtilis* as outgroups. The reconstructed phylogenetic tree showed that the isolates did not appear to be grouped into one clade according to their species. Phylogenetic tree reconstruction showing reference strains for *L. fusiformis* and *L. macroides* are intermingled with *L. sphaericus* strains.

# Toxin genes analysis

Larvicidal activity of *L. sphaericus* against *Culex quinquefasciatus* is determined by the presence of toxin genes (Mtx, Bin, Cry, and Sphaericolysin) and proteincoding genes associated with the toxicity of *L. sphaericus* isolates (S-layer protein, hemolysin, and chitin-binding protein). To detect and identify these genes, Mauve software, as well as BLAST-P and COBALT Multiple alignments, were used (on the NCBI page). Toxin analysis indicates that isolate 6.2 did not have any Bin, Cry, or Sphaericolysin genes, but Mtx, s-layer protein, hemolysin, and chitin-binding protein genes were identified, these are known to be associated with the toxicity of *L. sphaericus* to mosquitoes.

Based on the genome annotation with RAST, 1 gene was found indicating the gene sequence encoding the mosquitocidal toxin, located in contigs 1 CDS\_5929. Furthermore, based on the alignment between isolate 6.2 and the reference genome of *L. sphaericus* C3-41 using Mauve, gene sequences were found similar to mosquitocidal toxin in strain C3-41 which in the annotation results of isolate 6.2 with Prokka identified as hypothetical proteins. The four genes are located on CDS\_1308314, CDS\_1491487, CDS\_1498341, and CDS\_2977981 (Table 5).

Lysinibacillus sphaericus is known to have 4 types of Mtx which are characterized by the genes encoding the

toxin, namely Mtx1, Mtx2, Mtx3, and Mtx4 (Table 5). To determine the type of Mtx, the five CDS genes were identified using the Constrain-based Multiple Alignment Tool (COBALT) on the NCBI website (http://www.st-va.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov). The alignment process was carried out by aligning the Mtx sequence of isolate 6.2 with the reference Mtx sequence from *L. sphaericus* C3-41, Mtx1 (BSPH\_RS05330), Mtx2 (BSPH\_RS05295), Mtx3 (BSPH\_RS13250), and Mtx4 (BSPH\_RS14895). The results displayed on COBALT showed that the amino acid sequence of Mtx isolate 6.2 was similar to the amino acid sequence of the reference Mtx, *L. sphaericus* C3-41 (Figures 2-6).

```
Mtx1
    _c3-41
            1
                 ---MAIKKVLKIILAIIIISCQLPLNQKTVYASPNSPKDNTWIQA---ASLTWLMDMSSLLYQUSTRIPSFASPNGLH
                                                                                                   72
    _c3-41
Mtx2
            1
                  -mKSTKLLFYVMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDIIKKOGVS-ieDIDKKIDNMIASIPPLFGFLPYSRFPYIFG
                                                                                                   76
Mtx3
     C3-41
            1
                 --MKNKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIG
                                                                                                   76
            1
                 mrsktlrnaliigmvfitlggtttinpsqtyaesnsmqeknigit---nvnqvlekigsyyyqrnlsltwyeapnsig[8]
Mtx4 C3-41
     006.2
                                    -----mgentfinnseqeqtfnitsfsesitkststsiesgfkssittkgkvgipfvaeg
                                                                                                   55
Mtx
    _c3-41
Mtx1
            73
                                   -----MREQTIDSNTGQIQIONEHRLLRWDRRPPNDIFLNGFIP-----RVTNONLSPV
                                                                                                  121
     _
_C3-41
Mtx2
            77
                 ESVDVSGINIENTN
                                  {\tt VTSWPLFIGSNTFENTTDRTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLNGFKTAFEASGKVGIPLVAEG}
                                                                                                  152
    C3-41
Mtx3
            77
                 KHPENIDFEVKNTY[ 91ISONPLWAGOSDLRNDTDRDOTLSSOEFRKSFSNTTTATTEHGFMFGTETSLATGIPFLAEG
                                                                                                  161
    C3-41
Mtx4
            84
                 KNPDSISSEVDLSI[10]DSTIPKFLGENIFENNTNOEOTYNTSKFSETYTESTSTSVSKGFKI--NVGRDFTIPLILNE
                                                                                                  167
                 EVSAILEFNLSTT----ISTTSTITANSQAVKVP--PNKIYRHLSKQK-------
Mtx1
     _c3-41
            122
                 EDTHLLNYLRTNSPSIFVSTTRARYNNLGLEITPwtPHSANNNIIYRYEIFAPGGIDINASFSRN[4]PNEDEITFPRGN
                                                                                                  202
    _c3-41
            153
                 QIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTYTVPPOPIPVP--PHTKTRTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIYADAITG
                                                                                                  221
Mtx2
                 KITLKAEYNFSSSOANETSETVEYVAPSOSIVVP--PHTIARW-AVLEIKKIKGEMDIYAEVGLN[4]GYEELPISSMGG
Mtx3
     C3-41
            162
                                                                                                  239
    C3-41
                 GGKINLEYNSGSTNTNTLSKTYTLEAPSOPVKVP--PNKIYKAVVEYSORTYKGTVKFYGRNTHN
Mtx4
            168
                                                                                    PYPINTIKTTGS
                                                                                                  242
            203
                       -----
                                       ______
    _c3-41
                 ss-
                                                                                                  204
    _C3-41
Mtx2
            222
                 GTV
                       TSTGDGTNTASN
                                       TYGLIRSPODPDRVR-AIGSGKFNLINGADFTAITYDItSGEASARIIDVKEISF[1]
                                                                                                  291
    _C3-41
                       VSLGSIYEEAYN[12] IKIISRSVNNPDYFL-ASGKGRFESEYGSLFNVOVEYISTKSNEVIKTENLMVSP[5]
Mtx3
            240
                 LKW
                                                                                                  325
    C3-41
            243
                 YTG[9]FTFNDPLYKHYD[11]NDGWVIIPFLGATFVwVEGKGSFEGVYGAKLNVKTYDV-TDONKVKLVDSRSIDL
                                                                                                  331
```

**Figure 2.** Alignment results of Mtx toxin protein sequences from *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2 annotated by RAST (CDS\_5929) with Mtx sequences from *L. sphaericus* C3-41. Alignment was performed using COBALT on NCBI (http://www.st-va.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov). The color scheme taken from the program is interpreted as follows: red for conserved sequences, blue for gapless columns, gray for columns that have gaps. If less than 50% of the sequence contains gaps, it is shown in capital gray letters, 50% gaps will be shown in lower case gray.

```
CDS 1308314
                                      --MKSKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENOSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIG
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    76
                         1
Mtx1 _C3-41
                          1
                                      ---MAIKKVLKIILAIIIISCOLPLNOKTVYASPNSPKDNTWIOA---ASLTWLMDMSSLLYOUSTRIPSFASPNGLH[4]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    76
          _c3-41
                                      -mKSTKLLFYVMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDIIKKQGVS-IEDIDKKIDNMIASIPPLFGFLPYSRFPYIFG
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    76
Mtx2
                                      --\texttt{MKNKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNSFPDAANGSPVKNS
Mtx4 C3-41
                           1
                                      mrsktlrnaliigmvfitlggtttinpsqtyaesnsmqeknigit---nvnqvlekigsyyyqrnlsltwyeapnsig[8]
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    83
CDS 1308314
                                      {\tt KHPENIDFEVKNTYGKLSMEPQVI-SONPLWAGQSDLRNDTDRDQTLSSQEFRKSFSNTTTATTEHGFMFGTETSLATGII}
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  155
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
Mtx3 _C3-41
                           77
                                        -----TIDSNTGQIQIONEHR------LLRWDRRPPNDIFLNGFIPRVTNONLSPVEDTHLLNYLRTNSPSI
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  137
                           77
                                                                             ----V-TSWPLFIGSNTFENTTDRTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLNGFKTAFEASGKVGI
                           77
                                      KHPENIDFEVKNTYGKLSMEPQVI-SONPLWAGQSDLRNDTDRDQTLSSQEFRKSFSNTTTATTEHGFMFGTETSLATGI
Mtx4 _C3-41
                                      {\tt KNPDSISSEVDLSISGEE} {\tt IESLYY} {\tt dSTIPKFLGENIFENNTNQEQTYNTSKFSETYTESTSTSVSKGFKIN--VGRDFTI}
CDS 1308314
                                     PFLAEGKITLKAEYNFSSSOANETSETVEYVAPSOSIVVPPHTIARVVAVLEIKKIKGEMDIYAEVGLNKEKFGYEELPI
                           156
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  235
Mtx1 _C3-41
                                      FV----STTRARYNNLGLEITPWT------PHSANNNIIYRYEIFAPGGIDINASFSRNHNPFPNEDEIT
                           138
                                      PLVAEGQIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTYTVPPOPIPVPPHTKTRTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIYADAITG---
          _c3-41
                           147
          _c3-41
                                      PFLAEGKITLKAEYNFSSSQANETSETVEYVAPSQSIVVPPHTIAR-WAVLEIKKIKGEMDIYAEVGLNKEKFGYEELPI
Mtx3
                           156
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  234
          _c3-41
                                      PLILNEGGKINLEYNSGSTNTNTLSKTYTLEAPSOPVKVPPNKIYKAVVEYSORTYKGTVKFYGRNTHN----PYPINTI
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  237
Mtx4
                           162
                                                                                                                 IKIISRSVNNPDYFL-ASGKGRFESEYGSLFNVQVEYISTKSNE
CDS 1308314
                           236
                                      SGVGGLK-WVSLGSIYEEAYNQAKLSGTHEFPD
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
                           198
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  204
                                      KAESSGT-VISIGDGLNLASN-----
                           217
                                                                                                                 TYGLIRSPODPDRVR-AIGSGKFNLINGADFTAITYDITSGEAS
                                                                                                                 IKIISRSVNNPDYFL-ASGKGRFESEYGSLFNVOVEYISTKSNE
           _c3-41
                           235
                                      SSMGGLK-WVSLGSIYEEAYNOAKLSGTHEFPD
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  309
Mtx4 C3-41
                           238
                                     KTTGSYTqWMGMQEIKOFTFNDPLYKHYDGLSD[7]NDGWVIIPFLGATFVwVEGKGSFEGVYGAKLNVKTYDV-TDQNK
CDS 1308314
                                     VIKTENLMVSPT[4]
                           311
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2
          C3-41
          _c3-41
                                      VIKTENLMVSPT[4]
                           310
Mtx3
                                                                         325
Mtx4 C3-41
                           321
                                     VKLVDSRSIDL-
                                                                         331
```

**Figure 3**. Alignment results of Mtx toxin protein sequences annotated with Prokka and Mauve (CDS\_1308314) with Mtx sequences from *L. sphaericus* C3-41. The coloring scheme taken from the program is interpreted as follows: red for conserved sequences, blue for columns without gaps, gray for columns that have gaps. If less than 50% of the sequence contains gaps, it is displayed in gray capital letters, while more than 50% gaps will be shown in lowercase gray.

```
CDS 1491487
                                     --MAIKKVLKIILAIIIIISCOLPLNOKTVYASPNSPKDNTWIOA-----
                                                                                                                                                               ----AST.TWT.MDMSST.T.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 56
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
                                     --MAIKKVLKIILAIIII-SCOLPLNOKTYYASPNSPKDNTWIOA------ASLTWLMDMSSLL
                          1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 55
                          1
                                     -mKSTKLLFYVMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDIIKKQGVS-ieDIDKKIDNMIASIPPLFGFLPYSRFPYIFG
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 76
          _c3-41
                                     --\texttt{MKNKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPvkNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYYGRYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFLVNYTTSNGLGSIGNGAMAANGSRFL
                                     mrsktlrnaliigmvfitlggtttinpsotyaesnsmoeknigit---nvnovlekigsyyyornlsltwyeapnsig[8]
CDS 1491487
                          57
                                     -----YQLISTRIPSFASPNGLHMREQTIDSNTGQIQIONEHRLLRWDRRPPNDIFLNGFI-PRVTN--ONL
                                                                                                                                                                                                              120
                                     Mtx1 _C3-41
                          56
                                                                                                                                                                                                              118
          _C3-41
_C3-41
Mtx2
                          77
                                     ESVDVSGTNTE-NTN--
                                                                                     -VTSWPLFIGSNTFENTTDRTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLNGFKTAFEASgkVGI
                                                                                                                                                                                                              146
                                     {\tt KHPENIDFEVK-NTYGKLSMEPQVISQNPLWAGQSDLRNDTDRDQTLSSQEFRKSFSNTTTATTEHGFMFGTETS \\ 1 a {\tt TGII} \\
Mtx4 C3-41
                           84
                                     KNPDSISSEVD1SISGEEIESLYYDSTIPKFLGENIFENNTNQEQTYNTSKFSETYTESTSTSVSKGFKINVGRD--FTI
CDS 1491487
                         121
                                     SPVEDTHI.I.NYI.RTNSPSTFVSTTRARYN-NI.GI.ETTPWTPHSANNNTTYRYETFAPGGTDTNASFSRNHNPFPNED-ET
                                                                                                                                                                                                              198
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
Mtx3 _C3-41
                                     SPVEDTHLLNYLRTNS PSIFVSTTRARYN-NLGLEITPWTPHSANNNIIYRYEIFAPGGIDINASFSRNHNPFPNED-EI
                          119
                                                                                                                                                                                                              196
                          147
                                     PLVAEGQIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTYTVPPOPIPVPPHTKTTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIYADAITG----
                                                                                                                                                                                                              216
                          156
                                     \tt PFLAEGKITLKAEYNFSSSQANETSETVEYVAPSQSIVVPPHTIARW-AVLEIKKIKGEMDIYAEVGLNKEKFGYEE1PI
Mtx4 C3-41
                                     PLILNEGGKINLEYNSGSTNTNTLSKTYTLEAPSOPVKVPPNKIYKAVVEYSORTYKGTVKFYGRNTHNPYPI---N-TI
CDS 1491487
                          199
                                     TFPGGIR[6]TyEYHNGEIVRIWIN[4]NPST[12]VFWHENHSEGNNMDSKGFI-----LDLDYNQDFDMFAPNGEI
                                                                                                                                                                                                              283
Mtx1 _C3-41
                          197
                                     TFPRG--[21S-
                                                                                                                                                                                                              204
         _C3-41
_C3-41
                          217
                                     KAESSGT
                                                          --VISIGDGLNLASN
                                                                                                                ----TYGLIRSPODPDRVR-AIGSGKFNLINGADFTAITYDITS
                                                                                                                                                                                                              275
Mtx2
                                     SSMGGLK
                                                          --WVSLGSIYEEAYN[4]SGTH
                                                                                                                EFPDIKIISRSVNNPDYFL-ASGKGRFESEYGSLFNVOVEYIST
Mtx4 _C3-41
                          238
                                                          TgWMGMQEIKOFTFN
                                                                                              DPLY[11]KEVENDGWVIIPFLGATFVwVEGKGSFEGVYGAKLNVKTYDVT-
                                     KTTGSY-
CDS 1491487
                          284
                                     PNNNLLNNNSLNVION[1]
                                                                               300
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
                          276
                                     GEASARIIDVKEISFK
          _C3-41
                           306
                                     KSNEVIKTENLMVSPT[4]
                                                                                 325
Mtx4 C3-41
                          317
                                    DQNKVKLVDSRSIDL-
                                                                                 331
```

**Figure 4**. Alignment results of Mtx toxin protein sequences annotated with Prokka and Mauve (CDS\_1491487) with Mtx sequences from *L. sphaericus* C3-41. The coloring scheme taken from the program is interpreted as follows: red for conserved sequences, blue for columns without gaps, gray for columns that have gaps. If less than 50% of the sequence contains gaps, it is displayed in gray capital letters, while more than 50% gaps will be shown in lowercase gray.

```
CDS 1498341 1
                   -MKRTKLLFYIMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDSIKQQGVS-IEDIDKKIDNMIASIPPLFGFLSYSRFPYIFG
                                                                                                        76
Mtx1 _C3-41
                   ---MAIKKVLKIILAIIIISCQLPLNQKTVYASPNSPKDNTWIQA---ASLTWLMDMSSLLYQUSTRIPSFASPNGLH[2]
            1
                                                                                                        74
                   -MKSTKLLFYVMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDIIKKQGVS-IEDIDKKIDNMIASIPPLFGFLPYSRFPYIFG
Mtx2 _C3-41
             1
                                                                                                        76
     _c3-41
             1
                   --MKNKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENQSIANFSpVKNSFPDAANGSRFLVNYYGRYLTSNGLGSIG
Mtx4 C3-41
             1
                  mrsktlrnaliigmvfitlggtttinpsqtyaesnsmqeknigit---nvnqvlekigsyyyqrnlsltwyeapnsig[8]
                                                                                                        83
                  ESVDVSGINIENTN
CDS 1498341
                                    VTSWVPLFIGSNTFENTTORTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLNGFKTAFEASGKVGIPLVAE-
                                                                                                       152
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
             75
                                         -----EQTIDSNTGQIQIONEHRLLRWDRRPPNDIFLNGF--
             77
                                    VTSW-PLFIGSNTFENTTDRTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLNGFKTAFEASGKVGIPLVAE-
                  ESVDVSGINIENTN
                                                                                                       151
Mtx3
    _C3-41
             77
                   KHPENIDFEVKNTY[8]VISQNPLWAGQSDLRNDTDRDQTLSSQEFRKSFSNTTTATTEHGFMFGTETSLATGIPFLAE-
Mtx4 C3-41
             84
                  KNPDSISSEVDLSI[9]YDSTIPKFLGENIFENNTNOEOTYNTSKFSETYTESTSTSVSKGFK--INVGRDFTIPLILN-
                                                                                                       166
CDS_1498341
                   --GOIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTY
                                                 TVPPOPIPVPPHTKTRTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIVADAITG--
             153
                                                                                                       218
Mtx1 _C3-41
                  nlspvedthlinylrtnspsifvsttr[4]nlgleitpwtphsannniiyryeifapggidinasfsrnhnpf[3]deit
    _C3-41
_C3-41
                   --GQIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTY
Mtx2
             152
                                                 TVPPOPIPVPPHTKTRTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIYADAITG----
                                                                                                       217
Mtx3
             161
                   --GKITLKAEYNFSSSQANETSETVEY
                                                 VAPSQSIVVPPHTIARW-AVLEIKKIKGEMDIYAEVGLNKEKF[4]LPIS
                                                                                                       235
Mtx4 C3-41
             167
                   --EGGKINLEYNSGSTNTNTLSKTYTL
                                                 EAPSOPVKVPPNKIYKAVVEYSORTYKGTVKFYGRNTHNPYPI
                                                                                                       238
CDS_1498341
             219
                  AESSGKV
                            ISIGDGLNLASN
                                             TYGLIRSPQDPDRVR-AIGSGKFNLIHGADFTAITYDITSGETSARIIDVKEIS
                                                                                                       290
Mtx1 _C3-41
             198
    _c3-41
Mtx2
             218
                  AESSGTV
                             ISIGDGLNLASN
                                             TYGLIRSPODPDRVR-AIGSGKFNLINGADFTAITYDITSGEASARIIDVKEIS
                                                                                                       289
     C3-41
Mtx3
             236
                  SMCGT.KW
                            VSLGSTYEEAYN [12] TKTTSRSVNNPDYFL-ASGKGRFESEYGSLFNVOVEYTSTKSNEVTKTENLMVS
                                                                                                       319
                  TTGSYTG[9]FTFNDPLYKHYD[11]NDGWVIIPFLGATFVwVEGKGSFEGVYGAKLNVKTYDVT-DONKVKLVDSRSID
Mtx4
     C3-41
             239
Mtx1 _C3-41
             290
Mtx2 _C3-41
     __
C3-41
             320
                  PT[4]
                         325
Mt.x3
Mtx4 C3-41
             331
```

**Figure 5**. Alignment results of Mtx toxin protein sequences annotated with Prokka and Mauve (CDS\_1498341) with Mtx sequences from *L. sphaericus* C3-41. The coloring scheme taken from the program is interpreted as follows: red for conserved sequences, blue for columns without gaps, gray for columns that have gaps. If less than 50% of the sequence contains gaps, it is displayed in gray capital letters, while more than 50% gaps will be shown in lowercase gray.

From the results of the COBALT analysis, it is known that the five coding sequence genes indicate the identified Mtx species as shown in Table 5. It was known that isolate 6.2 had all four types of Mtx. This naming is based on the old nomenclature system, while according to the new protein toxin naming system Mtx1, Mtx2, Mtx3, and Mtx4 are grouped into the ETX/MTX2 family of pore-forming toxins.

Based on the BLASTP, it is known that all CDS genes suspected of being Mtx belong to the ETX/MTX2 family of pore-forming toxin which has high similarity with ETX/MTX2 in *L. sphaericus* species. This is indicated by the top position in the BLASTP results which shows a high percent identity and query cover for in *L. sphaericus*'s ETX/MTX2 family (Table 6).

```
CDS 2977981
                  mKKRNYLVQKTLTIAAIASIGTTFALASPSLASANHISTSQ[17]QANAVGIKDVQSELNKIGKYYYTNEIAGTKYYSKG
                   ---MAIKKVLKIILAIIIISCQLPLNQKTVYASPNSPKDNT[ 9]-----
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
             1
                                                                             ---LMDMSSLLYOUSTRIPSFASPN
                                                                                                        69
             1
                   -MKSTKLLFYVMIASFLFVNGSIYTAKATTIHENNHDIIK-
                                                                  KQGVS-IEDIDKKIDNMIASIP--PLFGFLPYSRF
                                                                                                         71
     _c3-41
                   --MKNKAKVILMGATIGLSLLSSPIAMAANGDSNVKENQS-
                                                                  IANFSPVKNSFPDAANGSRFLV--NYYGRYLTSNG
                   mRSKTLRNALIIGMVFITLGGTTTINPSQTYAESNSMQEKN
                                                                    --IGITNVNQVLEKIGSYYYQRNLSLTWYEAPN
CDS 2977981
             94
                  T.PT.T-fN
                             PAPDSVETELNFSITSNTL
                                                    NNLNYDSTTINYVTVGQLDNTkTPLEGILTTISYSESVQETTSTATON
                                                                                                        166
Mtx1 _C3-41
             70
                   GLHMR-E
                             QTIDSNTGQIQIONEHRLL[7]NDIFLNGFIPRVTNONLSPVEdTHLLNYLRTNSPSIFVSTTRARYNNL
                                                                                                        149
     _c3-41
             72
Mtx2
                  PYIFG--
                             ESVDVSGINIENTN-
                                                         -VTSWPLFIGSNTFENT-TDRTMTENTVSFSKSITDSTTTOTLN
                                                                                                        132
                   LGSIG--
     _c3-41
             72
                             KHPENIDFEVKNTYGKLSM
                                                    EP-QVISQNPLWAGQSDLRND-TDRDQTLSSQEFRKSFSNTTTATTEH
Mtx4 _C3-41
             73
                   SIGVNhD[4]KNPDSISSEVDLSISGEEI
                                                    ESLYYDSTIPKFLGENIFENN-TNQEQTYNTSKFSETYTESTSTSVSK
CDS 2977981
             167
                  GFKV
                          GGSGDLFFKVPLLV-EGLKLNAEFNSSTTNTTTKSVTRTLTAPSONIRVPSGKKYKAVAVLKOLNFWGDVSFT
                                                                                                        242
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
Mtx3 _C3-41
                  GLEI[6]SANNNIIYRYEIFAPGGIDINASFSRNHNPFPNEDEITFPRGNSS-
             150
                                                                                                        204
                          {\tt AFEASGKVGIPLVAEGQIKTTLEYNFSHTNSNTKSVITTYTVPPOPIPVPPHTKTRTDVYLNQVSISGNVEIY}
             133
                  GFKT
                                                                                                        209
                   GFMF
                          GTETSLATGIPFLAEGKITLKAEYNFSSSQANETSETVEYVAPSQSIVVPPHTIARW-AVLEIKKIKGEMDIY
Mtx4 C3-41
                          --NVGRDFTIPLILNEGGKINLEYNSGSTNTNTLSKTYTLEAPSOPVKVPPNKIYKAVVEYSQRTYKGTVKFY
CDS 2977981
             243
                  GEGVN-
                            PMTTIKGTAVYR-APNG[8]SKYTAQFWYELTNAQKNDLNGIEFNYFPSTGGVIVKAQGTGKFEGVMGSTL
                                                                                                        322
Mtx1 _C3-41
     _C3-41
_C3-41
             210
                  ADAITG
                            ----IKAESSGT-VISI
                                                 GDGLNLASN-----TYGLIRSPODPDRVRAIGSGKFNLINGADF
                                                                                                        266
Mtx2
             218
                  AEVGLN[6]EELPISSMGGLK-WVSL
                                                 GSIYEEAYNOAKLSGTHEFPDIKIISRSVNNPDYFLASGKGRFESEYGSLF
Mtx4 _C3-41
             225
                  GRNTHN[2]PINTIKTTGSYTGWMGM[8]NDPLYKHYDGLSDSQKKEVENDGWVIIPFLGATFVWVEGKGSFEGVYGAKL
                                                                                                        308
CDS 2977981
             323
                  EVDILDV-TNPANPILVESRPF--
Mtx1 _C3-41
Mtx2 _C3-41
             267
                  TAITYDItSGEASARIIDVKEISF[1]
     _c3-41
             297
                  NVOVEYISTKSNEVIKTENLMVSP[5]
                                                 325
Mtx4 _C3-41
             309 NVKTYDV-TDQNKVKLVDSRSIDL
```

**Figure 6.** Alignment results of Mtx toxin protein sequences annotated with Prokka and Mauve (CDS\_2977981) with Mtx sequences from *L. sphaericus* C3-41. The coloring scheme taken from the program is interpreted as follows: red for conserved sequences, blue for columns without gaps, gray for columns that have gaps. If less than 50% of the sequence contains gaps, it is displayed in gray capital letters, while more than 50% gaps will be shown in lowercase gray.

Table 5. The type of Mtx isolate 6.2 according to COBALT multiple alignment result

Annotation tools	Location	Mtx type	
RAST	CDS_5929	Mtx4	
Mauve and Prokka	CDS_1308314	Mtx3	
Mauve and Prokka	CDS_1491487	Mtx1	
Mauve and Prokka	CDS_1498341	Mtx2	
Mauve and Prokka	CDS 2977981	Mtx4	

Table 6. BLASTP result (top 5) isolate 6.2 amino acid sequence from RAST and Prokka

Description	Scientific name	Query cover	Percent identity	Accession number
CDS_5929				
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	100%	WP_099805144.1
MULTISPECIES: ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	Bacillaceae	100%	100%	WP_080695198.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. fusiformis	100%	98.97%	WP_198695615.1
Epsilon-toxin family protein	L. fusiformis	93%	87.37%	WP_096364505.1
MULTISPECIES: epsilon-toxin family protein	Lysinibacillus	93%	84.21%	WP_107921992.1
CDS_2977981				
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	99.13%	WP_200990889.1
MULTISPECIES: ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	Bacillaceae	100%	99.42%	WP_051563179.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	99.13%	WP_051891081.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	99.13%	WP_051800214.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	98.25%	WP_051889585.1
CDS_1308314				
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	98.47%	WP_197223954.1
MULTISPECIES: epsilon toxin family protein	Bacillaceae	100%	98.77%	WP_012294440.1
MULTISPECIES: epsilon toxin family protein	Lysinibacillus	100%	98.47%	WP_099805143.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. fusiformis	100%	96.93%	WP_171364833.1
Epsilon-toxin family protein	L. fusiformis	100%	96.63%	WP_096364507.1
CDS_1498341				
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	97.60%	WP_196244392.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	95.55%	WP_197224520.1
MULTISPECIES: epsilon-toxin family	Bacillaceae	100%	95.21%	WP_139015313.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	94.86%	WP_207889643.1
ETX/MTX2 family pore-forming toxin	L. sphaericus	100%	94.52%	WP_200990863.1

Based on the genome annotation with RAST, it was found that 8 copies of the s-layer protein-coding gene were found in 6.2. Genome annotation with Prokka shows 1 gene identified as S-layer protein. While result of alignment with Mauve shows some amount of sequence similarity to the s-layer protein gene in the reference genome C3-41, which was identified in the genome sequence as a hypothetical protein when annotated with Prokka. So, when the alignment results are calculated, the total gene s-layer protein is 21 copies for 6.2 (Table 7). The results of the analysis with different software showed different numbers. It happens because each software uses different features and methods in analyzing the sample genome, either by reference or alignment.

In *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2, the genes encoding hemolysin and CBP were identified (Tables 8 and 9). Haemolysin was identified in 3 locations, namely CBP\_699468, CBP\_1391601, and CBP\_2288207. While 1 CBP was identified in CDS\_1018774. The BLASTP result showed that the hemolysins identified were *HlyA* and *HlyIII*. Meanwhile, CBP in BLASTP results was identified as Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase (LPMO).

Based on BLASTP results for the CDS gene suspected of Haemolysin in isolate 6.2, it is known that all three are Haemolysin. In detail, HaemolysinA for CDS\_699468 and CDS\_2288207, and HaemolysinIII for CDS\_1391601 (Table 8). HaemolysinA is also known as rRNA methyltransferase TlyA which is commonly abbreviated as HlyA or TlyA. Hemolysins are exotoxins that attack blood cell membranes and cause cell rupture. The mechanism of action is not well defined. Haemolysin A is induced by sodium ribonuclease, and is produced by pathogenic bacterial strains (ebi.ac.uk, interPro-Classification of Protein Family, Haemolysin A /rRNA methyltransferase TlyA (IPR004538) - InterPro entry - InterPro (ebi.ac.uk)).

Based on analysis with Mauve tools when aligned with the reference genome *L. sphaericus* C3-41, CDS\_699468 has similarities with the gene sequences encoding Chitin-Binding Protein (CBP). While the results of BLASTP show that CDS\_699468 has a high similarity with Lytic Polysaccharides Monooxygenase (LPMO) which is indicated by the top 5 results being the LPMO gene (Table 9). Different from the alignment result with Mauve tools and BLASTP result that shows CDS\_699468 as CBP and LPMO, annotations with Prokka show that CDS\_699468 is a GlcNAc binding protein A (GbpA).

**Table 7.** Number and location of s-layer protein genes analyzed by Prokka, RAST, and Mauve

	Prokka		RAST	Mauve	
No.	Loc.	No.	Loc.	No.	Loc.
1	CDS	8	CDS.2221	21	CDS4102465
	4266678		CDS.2916		CDS4086312
			CDS.2919		CDS4338757
			CDS.312		CDS3682811
			CDS.313		CDS3987795
			CDS.3529		CDS3970794
			CDS.4223		CDS2996347
			CDS.4332		CDS2961831
					CDS2953962
					CDS2948564
					CDS2236945
					CDS2221600
					CDS2176440
					CDS2012074
					CDS1087379
					CDS1055934
					CDS849937
					CDS705080
					CDS509318
					CDS326609
					CDS14609

Note: Loc.: location

Table 8. BLASTP result (top 5) isolate 6.2 haemolysin amino acid sequence

Description	Scientific name	Query cover	Percent identity	Accession number
CDS 699468		Cover	identity	number
MULTISPECIES: TlyA Family RNA methyltransferase	Bacillaceae	100%	98.16%	WP_012295056.1
TlyA Family RNA methyltransferase	L. sphaericus	100%	97.79%	WP_197225283.1
TlyA Family RNA methyltransferase	L. fusiformis	100%	96.69%	WP_193832527.1
TlyA Family RNA methyltransferase	L. fusiformis	100%	96.32%	WP_069481921.1
TlyA Family RNA methyltransferase	L. sphaericus	100%	97.06%	WP_036216803.1
CDS_1391601	•			
MULTISPECIES: Haemolysin III family protein	Bacillaceae	100%	99.05%	WP_012294351.1
Haemolysin III family protein	L. sphaericus	100%	98.58%	WP_197223975.1
Haemolysin III family protein	L. sphaericus	100%	98.10%	WP_036168196.1
MULTISPECIES: Haemolysin III family protein	Lysinibacillus	100%	97.63%	WP_031418145.1
Haemolysin III family protein	L. sphaericus	100%	96.68%	WP_036216075.1
CDS_2288207	-			
Haemolysin XhlA Family Protein	l. fusiformis	100%	100%	WP_208704526.1
Haemolysin XhlA Family Protein	L. sphaericus	100%	100%	WP_051889624.1
MULTISPECIES: Haemolysin XhlA Family Protein	Lysinibacillus	100%	100%	WP_012293483.1
MULTISPECIES: Haemolysin XhlA Family Protein	Bacillaceae	100%	100%	WP_051563194.1
Haemolysin XhlA Family Protein	L. fusiformis	100%	98.77%	WP_150907955.1

**Table 9.** BLASTP result (top 5) isolate 6.2 CBP amino acid sequence

Description	Scientific name	Query cover	Percent ident.	Accession number
CDS_699468				
MULTISPECIES: Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase	Lysinibacillus	99%	98.67%	WP_036152780.1
Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase	L. sphaericus	100%	98.00%	WP_197223645.1
Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase	L. fusiformis	99%	93.33%	WP_144789930.1
Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase	L. fusiformis	99%	93.56%	WP_043990317.1
Lytic Polysaccharide Monooxygenase	L. fusiformis	99%	93.33%	WP_193833698.1

#### **Discussion**

The G+C content of *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2 was 37.1%. This value is almost the same as the reference strain of *L. sphaericus* which usually has a G+C content in the range of 37-38%, such as isolate C3-41 with a G+C content of 37.29% (Hu et al. 2008). *L. sphaericus* entomopathogenic reference strain by WHO 2362 with a G+C content of 37.3% (Hernández-Santana et al. 2016), strain OT4b.25 with a G+C content of 37.15% (Rey et al. 2016), low level of toxicity KCTC 3346T or DSM 28 with a G+C content of 37.1% (Jeong et al. 2013), and strain LMG22257 which contains G+C 38.99% (Yan et al. 2017).

The total length of the genome sequence for *L. sphaericus* isolate 6.2 was 4.6 Mbp. Based on the reference of whole-genome sequencing studies on reference strains of *L. sphaericus*, these bacteria have a genome size ranging from 4-5 Mbp, such as C3-41 measuring 4.64 Mbp (Hu et al. 2008), WHO reference isolate 2362 measuring 4.67 Mbp (Hernández-Santana et al. 2016), CBAM5 metal tolerance isolate measuring 5.14 Mbp (Peña-Montenegro et al. 2015), entomopathogenic strain OT4b.25 measuring 4.66 Mbp (Rey et al. 2016), as well as strains with a low level of toxicity to mosquito larvae, KCT 3346T or DSM28, measuring 4.56 Mbp (Jeong et al. 2013).

The result of the genome annotation as presented in Table 3 indicate that the genome annotation process produces an output in the form of functional element data. It can be used to identify the presence of genes related to research objectives, such as protein toxin genes and other genes related to larvicidal activity against mosquitoes.

The top 5 sequences shown based on the results of analysis with BLASTn for isolate samples are shown in Table 4. The ordering is based on the largest to smallest percent identity followed by the largest to the smallest cover query. Based on the results of this analysis, 6.2 was identified as L. fusiformis. The BLASTn results show that the percent identity difference is classified as very small between one sequence and another, which ranges from 0.00-0.43%. Percent identity refers to a quantitative measurement of the similarity between two sequences, either DNA, amino acids, or something else. Species that are closely related have a higher percent identity for a particular sequence than species that are more closely related. Thus, the percent identity at a certain level indicates closeness or connection (Quick and Sikela 2021). Likewise with query coverage. Query coverage shows the percentage of the length of the sequence query that is included in the alignment (Newell et al. 2013).

Phylogenetics is an analytical study using molecular data, nucleotide, or amino acid sequences to reconstruct the kinship relationships among organisms. In the end, this analysis unites all organisms in the same ancestor or common ancestor. The positions of the organisms are visualized in the form of a phylogenetic tree (Sogandi 2018). The value that appears at the branch node is the bootstrap value. Bootstrap is a value that states the probability of changing the arrangement of clades and sister clades in the phylogenetic tree. If the bootstrap value is 70-100, the chance of changing the clade arrangement is low, so when analysis is carried out, the branches and trees that are formed reach consistency and will not change. Conversely, if the bootstrap value is less than 70, it is said to be unstable (Osawa et al. 2004), the chance of changing the clad arrangement is high, so that when the analysis is carried out, the branches and the trees formed can still change. Based on BLASTn, isolate 6.2 was identified as L. fusiformis.

However, the reconstruction of the phylogenetic tree showed that the isolates did not appear to be grouped into one clade according to their species. Phylogenetic tree reconstruction showing reference strains for L. fusiformis and L. macroides are intermingled with L. sphaericus strains. The concept of a bacterial species phylo-phenetic suggests that a bacterial species is a group of individual organisms that are monophyletic and genomically coherent, show a high level of similarity, and can be diagnosed by their phenotypic characteristics (Rosselló-Mora and Amann 2001). These results indicate that the concept of species in the genus *Lysnibacillus* needs to be reexamined. Sequencing using the 16S rRNA gene is by far one of the most common methods targeting housekeeping genes to study bacterial phylogeny as well as genus and species level classification (Woese 1987; Wang et al. 2014). However, based on the results of the relationship analysis visualized with the phylogenetic tree in this study, the 16S rRNA gene cannot be used for species identification. The reconstructed phylogenetic tree shows that L. sphaericus strains which are known to have high levels of toxicity, C3-41, 2362, and OT4b.25 were seen to spread with the lowlevel toxicity strains DSM 28, OT4b.31, and B1-CDA, and the strains of L. macroides and L. fusiformis. It is known that bacterial toxicity, which is indicated by the presence of a protein toxin gene, does not originate in an evolutionary manner from its ancestor, but is an acquired or adaptive gene.

The BLASTP result on the NCBI website shows that the toxin identified in isolate 6.2 is ETX/Mtx2, toxin family. It is known to be a group of the pore-forming toxin family. The analysis with multiple alignment tools on the NCBI page using COBALT showed that the four types of Mtx, both Mtx1, Mtx2, Mtx3, and Mtx4 were identified in isolate 6.2. Pore-forming toxins are proteins capable of inserting pores in the membranes of the target cells which may lead to the lysis of the cell and release of nutrients (Iacovache et al. 2012). Overall results presented on BLASTP showed that the protein sequence in isolate 6.2 was identical to that of Mtx2 in *L. sphaericus*.

The pathogenic role of the S-layer protein has been shown in L. sphaericus against mosquito larvae Cx.quinquefasciatus and Aedes aegypti (Lozano et al. 2011; Allievi et al. 2014). In the sporulation phase, L. sphaericus spores maintain the presence of S-layer protein and associate with protein Bin. The presence of BinA-BinB toxin and S-Layer protein in the spores of an L. sphaericus strain contributes to the pathogenicity of L. sphaericus. Apart from being present in the sporulation phase of L. sphaericus and its association with other toxin proteins, Slayer proteins are also present in the vegetative phase of bacteria when spores are not present, and are mosquitocidal by themselves even though they are not associated with other toxin proteins (Allievi et al. 2014). S-Layer proteins had been observed to have a hemolytic activity. This activity causes damage to the target cell membrane due to the interaction of proteins with lipids. Hemolytic activity will help the pathogenic effect of the S-Layer protein on mosquito larvae and is thought to contribute to reducing the number of resistant mosquitoes (Allievi et al. 2014).

Based on the genome annotation, the gene coding for hemolysin and chitin-binding protein (CBP) was identified. Haemolysin, chitinase, and CBP are important virulence factors of entomopathogenic bacteria that increase the effectiveness of bacteria used in insect control (Andreeva et al. 2007; Manjeet et al. 2013). The presence of hemolysin is indicated by the hlyD, hlyA, and hly-III genes. Based on annotation and BLASTP results, hlyA and hly-III were found in isolate 6.2. Meanwhile, hlyD was not identified in the genome of isolate 6.2. The hlyD gene is a hemolysin gene that is associated with hemolysin protein secretion (Burgos and Beutin 2010). HaemolysinA (as known as rRNA methyltransferase TlyA and commonly abbreviated as HlyA or TlyA) is exotoxin that attacks blood cell membranes and causes cell rupture induced by sodium ribonucleate, and is produced by pathogenic bacterial strains. Another gene, hly-III, encodes hemolysin III which acts as pore-forming hemolysin (Baida and Kuzmin 1996).

A study reported the presence of a hemolytic domain in S-layer proteins and the larvicidal activity of these proteins was associated with the presence of these domains (Allievi et al. 2014). The hemolytic domain associated with the s-layer protein can be a toxic factor that contributes to the entomopathogenic activity of *L. sphaericus* (Rojas-Pinzón and Dussán 2017). As for the effect of hemolysin, after *L. sphaericus* is digested by the larvae, the bacteria recognize specific receptors and release hemolysin which lyses the midgut epithelial cells of the mosquito larvae on *Cx. quinquefasciatus* with Binary toxin (Lekakarn et al. 2015).

In L. sphaericus isolate 6.2, CBP was identified as LPMO and GbpA. The different results are shown from

different bioinformatics tools used in this study, but basically, both CBP, LPMO, and GbpA are all related to chitinase which plays a role in degrading chitin. The entomopathogenic activity of some bacteria is associated with the production of chitinase which increases the effectiveness of the bacteria used in insect control. Chitinase is an enzyme that degrades chitin. Although larval degradation is mainly due to chitinase, CBP also contributes to this process (Manjeet et al. 2013; Suginta et al. 2016) by its ability to bind to chitin, facilitate chitinase accessibility, and act synergistically with chitinase (Frederiksen et al. 2013). LPMO is known to have the ability to degrade chitin, such as the chitinase enzyme which plays a role in entomopathogenic activity in bacteria. LPMO are abundant in nature and best known for their role in the oxidative degradation of various biopolymers such as cellulose and chitin (Eijsink et al. 2019; Labourel et al. 2020). LPMO are currently classified as Carbohydrate-Binding Module family 33 (CBM33) and Glycoside Hydrolase family 61 (GH61). CBM33 which is one of the classifications of LPMO is known to have a chitin active site called CBP21. So it is known that CBP is part of LPMO which is known to have some domains that have the ability to hydrolyze chitin (Aachmann et al. 2012). GlcNAc binding protein A (GbpA) that is shown on annotation result with Prokka is also related to chitin-binding activity. GbpA is known to bind to N-acetylglucosamine (GlcNAc) containing carbohydrates, such as chitin (Wong et al. 2012).

In conclusion, the results of genomic analysis of isolate 6.2 showed good results. This isolate was known to have G+C content and genome size that matched the reference genome for L. sphaericus, as well as coverage values that met the recommendations. The 16S rRNA gene blasting showed that the closest related gene of isolate 6.2 16S rRNA is L. fusiformis (Accession number: NR\_042072.1). However, the reconstructed phylogenetic tree did not show the formation of clusters according to the species. From these results, it is known that the concept of species in the genus Lysinibacillus needs to be reviewed and 16S rRNA in this study cannot be used in phylogenetic identification. Toxin gene analysis carried out in this study showed that isolate 6.2 has no Bin, Cry, or sphaericolysin toxins. Meanwhile, Mtx was identified in isolate 6.2, namely Mtx1, Mtx2, Mtx3, and Mtx4. In L. sphaericus isolate 6.2, s-layer protein, hemolysin, and CBP genes were identified. All three are known to contribute to the entomopathogenic activity of the Cx. quinquefasciatus population which is resistant to binary toxin and A. aegypti.

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