# GC-MS analysis of antifungal metabolites secreted by two potent endophytes *Enterobacter cloacae* and *Achromobacter xylosoxidans*

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Two endophytic bacteria *Enterobacter cloacae* (ON955844) and *Achromobacter xylosoxidans* (ON955872), isolated from roots of *Musa paradisica* showed some plant growth promotion traits (PGP) and antifungal properties against leaf spot disease causing fungal pathogen *Curvularia lunata* (ON246070). *In vitro* assay of antagonist activities of these two bacterial isolates by using their culture filtrates showed positive results. *A. xylosoxidans* reduced pathogen mycelial growth significantly 80% and *Enterobacter cloacae* 75 % as compared to the control. The GC-MS analysis of culture filtrate of these two endophytic bacteria confirmed these finding. GC-MS analysis was carried by using two solvent etheyl acetate and chloroform and it showed several antifungal compounds. The identification of these bioactive secondary metabolites compounds was based on the peak area, retention time, molecular weight, molecular formula, and antimicrobial actions. GC-MS analysis result revealed the presence of major volatile compounds including, Cyclododecane, 1-Octanol, Cetene, Diethyl phthalate, n-Hexadecanoic acid, 1 –Nonadecene, cetene, 5-Octadecene, 1-Tridecene, 2-Dodecanol.

Keywords: Antifungal metabolites, endophytes, banana, GC-MS analysis

### INTRODUCTION

Banana plant (*Musa paradisiaca*) worldwide cultivated crop harbors many endophytic bacteria. Endophytic bacteria are those that live inside plant tissues without producing visible symptoms of infection or having an adverse effect on their hosts. The leaf spot disease in banana caused by Curvularia lunata from Sarai, Raiganj was first reported and Koch's postulates was established by Chowhan and Chakraborty (2022). Endophytic bacteria have potential to protect the host plant from different pathogens. The presents research has focused on the antagonist roles of the two endophytic bacteria Enterobacter cloacae (ON955844) and Achromobacter xylosoxidans (ON955872), isolated from banana roots against the fungal pathogen of the banana and GCMS analysis of those antifungal metabolites, secreted by the endophytic bacteria against C. lunata.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

# In vitro assay of antagonist activities of E. cloacae and A. xylosoxidans by using their culture filtrates against C. lunata

The two endophytic bacteria *E. cloacae* and *A. xylosoxidans*-isolate number MRH-06 and MRH-11 respectively were inoculated separately in nutrient broth media, then after 4 days of incubation period the cultures were filtrated using Whatman Filter paper no- 1 and culture filtrates were taken. Then 1 ml of culture filtrate of each sample was transferred into two separate sterile Petridishes. Then 30ml of melted Potato Dextrose Agar was poured to both Petridishes, a control was taken where no culture filtrate was added on it. In all the Petridishes fungal inoculation was done by using a sterile cork borer. After that all the plates were incubated at 32 °C for 5 days.

### GC-MS analysis of crude cell free extract

"Two solvent was used for GCMS analysis that were ethyl acetate and chloroform" 2ml sample

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of sterile culture filtrate was taken in a 10 ml of amber vial. 2ml of Ethyl acetate was added to the sample. The mixture was then extracted until the two layer separate clearly. The ethyl acetate layer was pipette out and passed through the anhydrous sodium sulphate layer. Finally the Ethyl Acetate layer was filtered through syringe filter and 1ul is subjected to GCMS. Identification of the antimicrobial metabolites was done by Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) analysis with AGILENT 7890B System (Agilent Technologies 7890B GC system for gas chromatography). The inlet temperature was 225C and initial temperature was 75C (Hold time zero). The Ramp 1 temperature was 25C/ min to 150C and Ramp 2 temperature 10C/min to 180C (Hold time 10 min) with MS transfer line 280C. Pure helium was used as a carrier gas at a flow rate of 1 ml/min. "Chloroform was used in place of ethyl acetate when the solvent was chloroform for GCMS analysis."

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In vitro assays showed that both bacterial isolates had an antagonist effect against *C. lunata*, by using their culture filtrates (Fig. 1), that indicates the presence of some antifungal metabolites in culture filtrates of bacteria. *Enterobacter cloacae* inhibited the growth of test pathogens viz. *Curvularia lunata*. Achromobacter xylosoxidans also checked the growth of the tested pathogensignificantly. The tested fungus was inhibited to some degree, the percentage inhibition was 83.5% by *Achromobacter xylosoxidans* and 75% by *Enterobacter cloacae* (Table 1).*E. cloacae* isolated from *Ocimum sanctum* inhibited the growth of *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Pythium debaryanum* as reported by Panigrahi (2021). A. xylosoxidans was reported previously for producing inhibitory metabolites having significant effect to inhibiting Aspergillus flavus and Aspergillus parasiticus (Ren et al. 2020). This finding was confirmed by GC-MS analysis of the culture filtrate of E. cloacae and A. xylosoxidans, which identified presence of several antifungal compounds. Two solvents was used for GC-MS analysis- chloroform and ethyl acetate and the Chromatogram of GC-MS analysis where each separated substance was represented by a peak and retention times are shown for Enterobacter cloacae (Figs. 2, 3) and for Achromobacter xylosoxidans (Figs. 4, 5). The major volatile antifungal compound identified in culture filtrate of Enterobacter cloacae are Cyclododecane, n-Tridecan-1-ol, 1-Dodecanol, Tetradecene, Cyclododecane, Octane, Dimethyl phthalate, 2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol, Cetene, Diethyl phthalate, 1-Nonadecene, 1-Octadecene, 3,5-Dimethoxyphenol, n-Hexadecanoic acid, 1-Docosene, n-Tetracosanol-1, 1-Octacosanol, Cyclopentane 1-ethyl-2-methyl-cis-, 5-Tridecene (Z), Azetidine, 1,2-dimethyl, Hexane, 2,3,4-1-Pentanol 2-methyl-, trimethyl-, paminobenzamide, 2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol, 5-Octadecene, 1-Tridecene, 2-Dodecanol, 5-Octadecene, n-Hexadecanoic acid (Tables 2 and 3). The major volatile antifungal compounds identified in culture filtrate of Achromobacter xylosoxidans are Cyclododecane, 2-3-Tetradecene, 4-Tetradecene, Tetradecene. Tritetracontane, 2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol, Cetene, Sulfurous acid, dodecyl 2-propyl ester, Diethyl phthalate, 1-Octadecene, E-15-Heptadecenal, 3,5-Dimethoxyphenol, n-Hexadecanoic acid, 1-Nonadecene, 1-Heneicosanol, 1-Heptadecanol, 1-Octanol, Ethyl Acetate 1-Tridecene, Phenol 3,5-Bis(1,1-Dimethylethyl)-, 5-Octadecene (E) -, 2-Dodecanol, Diethyl phthalate, 2-Tetradecanol,

Table1: In vitro antagonism of Enterobacter cloacae and Achromobacter xylosoxidans against Curvularia lunata

	Test fungi	Paired with bacterium	Dia. of fungal growth* (cm)	Zone of inhibition (cm)	% of Inhibition	
	Curvularia lunata	-	8.8±1.2	-	-	
		Enterobacter cloacae	2.1±0.22	1.7±0.09	75.0±2.91	
	Achromobacter Xylosoxidans	1.5±0.09	2.0±0.24	83.5±2.65		

\*After 7 days; ±= SE

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Compound name Molecular Mol. weight RT Area % Structure Bioactivity Formula (g/mol) Cyclododecane  $C_{12}H_{24}$ 168.32 3.821 2.56 Aldulaimi et al. (2022) 2.56 n-Tridecan-1-ol 200.3608 3.821 Abdulrahman et al.  $C_{13}H_{28}O$ (2023) Okoye et al. (2012) 1-Dodecanol  $C_{12}H_{26}O$ 186.3342 3.821 2.56 4-Tetradecene  $C_{14}H_{28}$ 196.3721 5.269 7.82 Ara et al. (2013) Cyclododecane  $C_{12}H_{24}$ 168.32 5.269 7.82 Aldulaimi et al. (2022) Octane C8H<sub>1</sub>? 114.23 5.326 0.52 Wang et al. (2022) Ether, heptyl hexyl  $C_{13}H_{28}O$ 200.36 5.326 0.52 Succinic  $C_{22}H_{36}O_5$ 380.5 5.326 0.52 acid, tridec-2-yn-1yl tetrahydrofurfuryl ester Premjanu and Jayanthy (2014); CH3 Dimethyl phthalate  $C_{10}H_{10}O_4$ 194.18 5.910 0.50 Shafikova et al. (2020) CH3  $C_{14}H_{22}O$ 206.32 6.339 23.52 Seenivasan et al. 2,4-Di-tert-(2022) butylphenol Phenol, 2,5-bis(1,1-C14H22O 206.3239 6.339 23.52 dimethylethyl)-

Table 2: Major volatile antifungal compounds identified from the culture filtrate of Enterobacter cloacae in solvent chloroform

	· · · <b>,</b> ·		3		[0]		
Cetene	$C_{16}H_{32}$	58.08	7.031	11.87	×~~~~	Femi-Adep (2018)	oju,
Diethyl phthalate	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	222.24	7.163	24.40		Premjanu (2014)	et al.
1-Octadecene	$C_{18}H_{36}$	252.5	8.943	12.45	~~~~~	Orchard (2023)	et al.
1-Nonadecene	$C_{19}H_{38}$	266.5	8.943	12.45	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Adhikari (2023)	et al.
3,5- Dimethoxyphenol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	154.16	9.538	0.56	p f f f h	Sánchez- Hernández (2023)	et al.
Pyrrolo[1,2- a]pyrazine-1,4- dione, hexahydro- 3-(2-methylpropyl)	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	210.2728	10.453	0.49		Nas <i>et al.</i> (	2021)
2,4(1H,3H <del>)</del> Pyrimidinedione, 1,3,6trimethyl	$C_7 H_{10} N_2 O_2$	154.1665	10.453	0.49	NNN	-	
n-Hexadecanoic acid	$C_{16}H_{32}O_2$	256.4241	10.453	0.49	C CH	Aldarhami (2023)	et al.
2-Undecene	$C_{11}H_{22}$	154.29	10.453	0.49	н	-	
1-Nonadecene	$C_{19}H_{38}$	266.5	10.842	9.55	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Ghavam (2021)	et al.
Cycloeicosane	$C_{20}H_{40}$	280.5	10.842	9.55		-	
1-Docosene	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>44</sub>	308.6	12.645	3.53		Albratty (2021)	et al.

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Table 3: Major volatile antifungal compounds identified from the culture filtrate of Enterobacter cloacae in solvent ethyl acetate

Compound name	Molecular Formula	Mol. weight	RT	Area %	Structure	Bioactivity
Cetene	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub>	58.08	5.258	9.00		Femi-Adepoju <i>et al.</i> (2018)
Cyclopentane, 1-ethyl-2- methyl- cis-	$C_8H_{16}$	112.21	5.258	9.00	5	Rahmawati <i>et al.</i> (2020)
5-Tridecene, (Z)	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>26</sub>	182.35	5.258	9.00		Kavitha <i>et al.</i> ( 2010)
Azetidine, 1,2 -dimethyl-	C₅H <sub>11</sub> N	85.15	5.904	1.29	× ×	Asif (2018)
Hexane, 2,3,4-trimethyl-	$C_9H_{20}$	128.25	5.315	1.29		Anbu <i>et al.</i> (2022)
1-Pentanol, 2-methyl-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O	102.174	5.315	1.29	он	Garrido <i>et al.</i> (2020)

p- aminobenzamide	C7H8N2O	136.15	5.904	1.90	NH <sub>2</sub>	Bibens <i>et al.</i> (2023)
Benzonitrile,3,5- imethoxy	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	163.176	5.904	1.90	H <sub>2</sub> N CH <sub>3</sub>	-
2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O	206.32	6.333	10.55	CH <sub>3</sub>	Varsha <i>et al.</i> (2015)
5-Octadecene	$C_{18}H_{36}$	252.5	7.026	7.13	, , , , , ,	Hamed <i>et al.</i> (2019)
1-Tridecene	$C_{13}H_{26}$	182.35	7.026	7.13	~~~~~~	Lammers <i>et al.</i> (2021)
Diethyl phthalate	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	222.24	7.157	59.87		Premjanu and Jaynthy ( 2014)
2-Dodecanol	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O	186.34	8.943	3.62	н о	-
5-Octadecene	$C_{18}H_{36}$	252.5	8.943	3.62	H H	Hamed <i>et al.</i> (2019)
2-Heptadecanol	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O	256.5	8.943	3.62	H <b>0</b> H	Chatterjee <i>et al.</i> (2018)

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Propenal, 3-hydroxy-2- (4-pyridyl)	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	149.147	9.761	1.74	O U O H	
3-(4-Pyridyl)acrylic acid	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO	149.15	9.761	1.74	e Ho	
2-((2- Ethoxyethoxy)carbonyl)ben zoic acid	$C_{12}H_{14}O_5$	268.26	9.761	1.74		
n-Hexadecanoic acid	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	256.4	10.51	3.47	Kikukawa <i>et al.</i>	(2023)
Dodecanoic acid	$C_{12}H_{24}O_2$	200.3178	10.51	3.47	С	
(S)-(+)-5-Methyl-1- heptanol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O	130.23	10.84	1.42	• н	
Cyclohexanol, 2- isocyano-, trans-	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> NO+	126.18	10.84	1.42	H.O.	
Cyclobut-1- enylmethanol	$C_5H_8O$	84.12	10.84	1.42	O H	

Compound name	Molecular Formula	Mol. weight	RT	Area %	Structure	Bioactivity
Cyclododecane	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>24</sub>	168.319	3.816	2.77		Mohan and Anjali (2005)
1-Decene	C₁? H₂?	140.266	3.816	2.77		-
2-Tetradecene	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>28</sub>	196.37	5.269	8.15	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Mahdavi <i>et al.</i> (2017)
3-Tetradecene	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>28</sub>	196.37	5.269	8.15	H H	Sharma and Thakur (2020)
4-Tetradecene	$C_{14}H_{28}$	196.37	5.269	8.15	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Ara <i>et al.</i> (2013)
Carbonic acid, dodecyl vinyl ester	$C_{15}H_{28}O_3$	256.38	5.326	0.63	≈°ړ°~~~~~	-
Carbonic acid , eicosyl vinyl ester	$C_{23}H_{44}O_3$	368.6	5.326	0.63	۶° <sup>°</sup> <sup>°</sup>	-
Tritetracontane	$C_{43}H_{88}$	605.2	5.326	0.63	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Rhetso <i>et al.</i> (2020)
2,4-Di-tert-butylphenol	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O	206.32	6.339	24.25	H.O.	Seenivasan <i>et al.</i> (2022)
Cetene	$C_{16}H_{32}$	224.425	7.032	12.76	~~~~~~	Femi-Adepoju <i>et al.</i> (2018)

Table 4: Major volatile compound identified from the culture filtrate of Achromobacter xylosoxidans in solvent chloroform

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Carbonic acid, hexadecyl prop -1- en-2-yl ester	$C_{20}H_{38}O_3$	326.5	7.095	0.49	~~~~_₀Å₀Å	-
Sulfurous acid , dodecyl 2-propyl ester	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S	292.5	7.095	0.49		Mary Mawumenyo et al. (2023)
Diethyl phthalate	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	222.24	7.163	17.13		Premjanu and Jaynthy (2014)
1-Octadecene	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>36</sub>	252.5	8.943	13.39	~~~~~	Kayode <i>et al.</i> (2018)
E-15-Heptadecenal	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O	252.4	8.943	13.39	o <sup>H</sup>	Teoh <i>et al.</i> (2023)
3,5-Dimethoxyphenol acetate	$C_{10}H_{13}O_5$	213.21	9.538	0.64		-
3,5-Dimethoxyphenol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	154.16	9.538	0.64	O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	Reddy <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Pyrrolo(1,2-a)pyrazine- 1,4-dione, hexahydro-3- (1-methylethyl)-	$C_{10}H_{16}N_2O_2$	196.25	10.459	0.57	H'N H H	-
n-Hexadecanoic acid	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O	256.4241	10.459	0.57	OH OH	Nabi <i>et al.</i> (2022)
Trifluoroacetoxy hexadecane	$C_{18}H_{33}F_3O_2$	338.4	10.843	10.63		-





Table 5: Major volatile compound identified from the culture filtrate of Achromobacter xylosoxidans in solvent ethyl acetate

Compound name	Molecular Formula	Mol. weight	RT	Area %	Structure	Bioactivity
1-Heptadecanol	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O	256.5	3.787	4.35	H <sub>0</sub>	Chatterjee <i>et al.</i> (2018)
1-Octanol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O	130.23	3.787	4.35	0,H	Neelakandan <i>et al.</i> (2021)
Ethyl Acetate	$C_4H_8O_2$	88.11	3.936	2.92	y °~~	Satria <i>et al.</i> (2023)
4-Heptenoic Acid, Ethyl Ester, (E)-	$C_9H_{16}O_2$	156.2221	3.936	2.92		-
1-Octene, 3,7-Dimethyl	$C_{10}H_{20}$	140.27	5.258	7.41		-
Cyclopentane, 1,1,3- Trimethyl-	$C_8H_{16}$	112.21	5.258	7.41	$\sum$	-
1-Tridecene	$C_{13}H_{26}$	182.35	5.258	7.41	~~~~~~	Arogbodo et al. (2022)

Benzonitrile, 2,4- Dimethoxy-	C₀H₀NO₂	163.17	5.904	1.57	N <sub>C</sub>	-
3,5- Dimethoxyben zonitrile	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	163,18	5.904	1.57		-
2,4-Di-Tert- Butylphenol	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O	206.32	6.333	8.80	H.º	Seenivasan <i>et al.</i> (2022)
Phenol, 3,5-Bis(1,1 Dimethylethyl)	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O	206.33	6.333	8.80	CH CO CO	Rizvi <i>et al.</i> (2014)
5-Octadecene, (E)	$C_{18}H_{36}$	252.5	7.026	6.29		Hamed <i>et al.</i> (2019)
2-Dodecanol	$C_{12}H_{26}O$	186.33	7.026	6.29	H 0	Togashi <i>et al.</i> (2007)
Diethyl phthalate	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	222.24	7.152	58.09		Premjanu and Jayanthy (2014)
2- Tetradecanol	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O	214.39	8.943	3.62	H <sup>0</sup>	Schwob <i>et al.</i> (2006)



5-Octadecene (E)- , 3,7-Diazabicyclo [3.3.1] Nonane, 3,7-Dimethyl-, n-Hexadecanoic Acid, 2-Hexenal (E)-. (Tables 4 and 5).

# The present study depicts about the roles of culture filtrates of endophytic bacteria as potent antagonistic activities in controlling the growth of fungal pathogens. GCMS analysis of antifungal metabolites, secreted by two potent endophytes

# CONCLUSION

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Fig 1: (A) Curvularia lunata grown with out adding any bacterial culture filtrate. (B) Curvularia lunata grown with culture filtrate of Enterobacter cloacae. (C) Curvularia lunata grown with culture filtrate of Achromobacter xylosoxidans



Fig. 2 : GC-MS analysis of *Enterobacter cloacae* by using solvent-chloroform and Chromatogram of GC-MS analysis where each separated substance is represented by a peak and retention time



Fig. 3: GCMS analysis of *Enterobacter cloacae* by using the solvent ethyl acetate and Chromatogram of GC-MS analysis where each separated substance is represented by a peak and retention time

Enterobacter cloacae and Achromobacter xylosoxidans proved their biocontrol potentials against banana leaf spot disease causing pathogen Curvularia lunata.

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**Fig. 5:** GCMS analysis of *Achromobacter xylosoxidans* by using the solvent ethyl acetate and chromatogram of GC-MS analysis where each separated substance is represented by a paeak and retention time

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### DECLARATIONS

Conflict of interest: Authors declare no conflict of interest.

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