

Evolution of an endofungal lifestyle: Deductions from the *Burkholderia rhizoxinica* genome.

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Abstract

Burkholderia rhizoxinica is an intracellular symbiont of the phytopathogenic zygomycete *Rhizopus microsporus*, the causative agent of rice seedling blight. The endosymbiont produces the antimitotic macrolide rhizoxin for its host. It is vertically transmitted within vegetative spores and is essential for spore formation of the fungus. To shed light on the evolution and genetic potential of this model organism, we analysed the whole genome of *B. rhizoxinica* HKI 0454 - a type strain of endofungal *Burkholderia* species.

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