

## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0168-1656(18)30176-7  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbiotec.2018.06.001>  
Reference: BIOTEC 8182

To appear in: *Journal of Biotechnology*

Received date: 13-2-2018  
Revised date: 29-5-2018  
Accepted date: 2-6-2018

Please cite this article as: Retamal-Morales G, Heine T, Tischler JS, Erler B, Gröning JAD, Kaschabek SR, Schlömann M, Levicán G, Tischler D, Draft genome sequence of *Rhodococcus erythropolis* B7g, a biosurfactant producing actinobacterium, *Journal of Biotechnology* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbiotec.2018.06.001>

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Short Genome Communications

**Draft genome sequence of *Rhodococcus erythropolis* B7g, a biosurfactant producing actinobacterium**

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**Highlights**

- Anionic trehalose-tetraester as a valuable biosurfactant.
- Stable and prolonged biosurfactant production by *R. erythropolis* B7g.
- Genome reveals numerous secondary metabolite relevant gene clusters.
- Gene redundancy uncovered for trehalose production.

**Abstract**

Biosurfactants are amphipathic molecules with relevance in biotechnology due to their structural diversity, low toxicity and biodegradability. The genus *Rhodococcus* has extensively been studied because of its capacity to produce trehalose-containing surfactants as well as trehalose lipids as potential pathogenic factor. Here we present the draft genome sequence of *Rhodococcus erythropolis* B7g isolated with toluene from fuel-contaminated soil. The genome comprises 7,175,690 bp in 121 contigs, a G + C content of 62,4% and 7,153 coding DNA sequences (CDSs), and it contains genes for trehalose biosynthesis and surfactant production. Additionally, genes for the production of trehalose-tetraester biosurfactant were identified, whose function was experimentally verified making the strain B7g a potential candidate for use in bioremediation applications or in biosurfactant exploration.

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