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(54) Title: BACTERIAL STRAINS FOR USE AS PROBIOTICS, COMPOSITIONS THEREOF, DEPOSITED STRAINS AND METHOD TO IDENTIFY PROBIOTIC BACTERIAL STRAINS

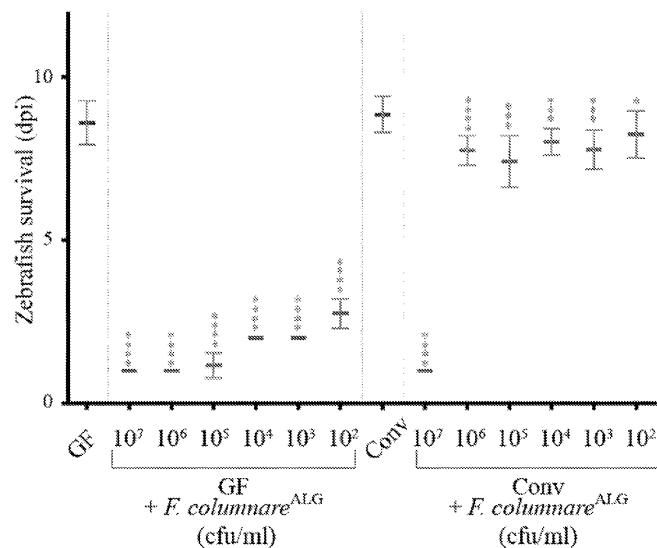


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a bacterial strain or a combination of bacterial strains, selected from the group consisting of: a *Chryseobacterium massiliae* strain, a *Flavobacterium* sp. strain with at least 95% or more Average Nucleotide Identity (ANI) value with the *Flavobacterium* sp. strain whose genome comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or as identified by Accession Number No. I-5481 deposited at the Collection Nationale De Culture De Microorganismes (CNCM) on January 24, 2020, and variants thereof, for use as a probiotic in fish(es). The bacterial strain(s) may have at least 95% or more Average Nucleotide Identity (ANI) value with the *Chryseobacterium massiliae* strain whose genome comprises SEQ ID NO:2 or as identified by Accession Number No. I-5479 deposited at the CNCM on January 24, 2020, and/or the *Flavobacterium* sp. strain whose genome comprises SEQ ID NO: 1 or as identified by Accession Number

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No. I-5481 deposited at the CNCM on January 24, 2020, respectively, or variants thereof. Probiotic use may be directed to preventing or minimizing infections by *Flavobacterium columnare* in fishes. The invention also concerns the said deposited bacterial strains, or probiotic compositions or food products or kits comprising the same, and a method to identify bacterial strain(s) that are probiotic against a pathogen infection.