

***Bacillus* extracellular matrix modulates *Botrytis* metabolism and growth**

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Abstract

In nature, bacteria often form communities known as biofilms, where cells are embedded in a self-produced extracellular matrix (ECM) that provides protection against external aggressions or facilitates efficient use of resources. Interactions with other microbes can significantly alter the structure of the community and thus the type of relationship with the environment. Here, we study the role of different components of *Bacillus* ECM in the adhesion to *Botrytis* hyphae, which could facilitate the efficient release of antifungal metabolites. We also describe how the different purified components of the ECM and certain *Bacillus* secondary metabolites (TasA, TapA, EPS, Fengycin) modulate the chemical communication between *Bacillus* and *Botrytis*, altering the physiology and ultrastructure of *Botrytis*.