Research Tools

Exploring Natural Products from Actinobacteria Symbionts Associated with Animals and Plants

WARF: P07080US

Inventors: Cameron Currie

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing a collection of more than 150 unique strains of actinomycetes.

Overview

Actinomycetes, which are Gram-positive filamentous bacteria, produce the majority of known antibiotics. Fungus-growing Attine ants engage in a mutualistic association with actinomycetes to defend their fungus garden. Other animals and plants also have symbiotic associations with actinomycetes.

The Invention

A UW-Madison researcher has collected more than 150 unique strains of actinomycetes obtained from ants, bees, lichens, bark beetles and other macroorganisms. DNA sequencing has confirmed that these strains are novel, and thus have not been previously screened. Bioassays revealed the *in vitro* production of antifungal and antibacterial compounds by many of these strains.

Applications

- May enable the development of new antibacterial and antifungal compounds

Key Benefits

- Provides a novel, potent and diverse collection of actinomycetes for new antibiotics or other natural products

Additional Information

For More Information About the Inventors

- Cameron Currie

Tech Fields

- Research Tools : Genomics & proteomics
- Research Tools : Microbial technologies

For current licensing status, please contact Emily Bauer at emily@warf.org or 608-960-9842

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