

Multiphasic comparative analysis of key nitrite-oxidizing bacteria in wastewater treatment plants

Zusammenfassung

In biological wastewater treatment, excess nitrogen must be removed from sewage to protect natural waters from ecological damage. Nitrite-oxidizing bacteria of the genus *Nitrospira*, which also occur in most habitats in nature, play a key role for nitrogen removal in wastewater treatment plants. These important bacteria are barely studied, because they are difficult to grow under laboratory conditions. This project will use cutting-edge molecular biological methods to characterize different *Nitrospira*, which live in wastewater treatment plants, in an encompassing approach ranging from genomics to proteomics, metabolomics, and computer modelling. The results will potentially be relevant for improving models and processes of nitrogen removal in sewage treatment. The project will also tackle fundamental questions of microbial ecology relating to the niche adaptation and functioning of closely related environmental bacteria.

Keywords:

Nitrification, Nitrite oxidation, *Nitrospira*, Wastewater treatment, Environmental genomics, Systems biology

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Weiterführende Links zu den beteiligten Personen und zum Projekt finden Sie unter
https://wwtf.at/programmes/life_sciences/LS09-040