

Supplementary Table 1. Overview of *C. difficile* strains, animal hosts and countries represented in the collection.

Animal Country	Cat	Cattle	Dog	Goat	Horse	Pig	Poultry	Rabbit	Goose Wild hare Partridge Crow Racoon	Nr. of strains/ PCR ribotypes
Austria		005/0 (005) 014/020/0 (014/0) 015/0 (AI-8/0) 029/0 (029) 078/V (078) 103/0 (AI-82/1) (CE)050/0 (AI-84) (CE)013/0 (AI-9-1) (CE)602/0 (212) (CE)342/0 (610) (CE)365/0 (434)				011/049/0 (049/1) 056/XII (056) 150/0 (AI-12)	001/0 (001)			15/15
Belgium		002/0 (203) 010/tox- (010) 012/0 (012) 014/020/0 (014/0) 033/XIb (033) 045/V (PR4455) 078/V (078) 078/V (078) 081/0 (081) 126/V (078ecdc)			014/020/0 (020)	002/0 (203) 078/V (078) 081/0 (081)				14/9
Canada	001/0 (001ecdc)	012/0 (012) 078/V (078)	001/0 (001ecdc) 002/0 (203)		027/IIIb (027) 078/V (078) (CE)288/XIb (660)	015/0 (AI-8/0) 078/V (078)			Racoon: 103/0 (AI-82/1) SLO 166/I (661)	12/9
Czech Republic						150/0 /AI-12				1/1
Denmark						005/0 (005) 045/V (598) 045/VI (413) 078/V (078) 126/V (126) 150/0 (AI-12) (CE)448/VI (653)				7/6
Germany	014/020/0 (449) (CE)039/tox- (039/2) SLO 024/V (652)		010/tox- (010) 014/020/0 (014/0) SLO 024/V (652) (CE)097/0 (AI-60)							7/5

Animal Country	Cat	Cattle	Dog	Goat	Horse	Pig	Poultry	Rabbit	Goose Wild hare Partridge Crow Raccoon	Nr. of strains/ PCR ribotypes
Italy		033/XIb (033) 126/V (126)				012/XIX (012) 014/020/0 (014/0) 014/020/0 (014/5) 078/V (078) 078/V (078/4) 081/0 (081) 150/0 (AI-12) 127/VI (651) (CE)050/0 (050) SLO 133/XII (AI-15)		002/0 (203) 012/0 (012) 014/020/0 (014/0) 078/V (078) (CE)032/tox- (205) (CE)013/0 (AI-9-1) (CE)084/tox- (548)	017/VIII (017) Wild Hare	20/15
Scotland						078/V (078)				1/1
Slovenia	014/020/0 (014/0)	002/0 (209) 014/020/0 (014/0)	012/0 (012) 014/020/0 (659)	010/tox- (010) 014/020/0 (014/0) 045/V (045)	033/XIa (033)	045/V (045)	001/0 (001) 005/0 (005) 010/tox- (010) 012/0 (012) 014/020/0 (014/0) 018/0 (018) 023/IV (023) 029/0 (029) 045/V (045) 103/0 (AI-82/1)		Crow: 003/0 (003) Goose: (CE)013/0 (AI-9-1) Partridge: (CE)288/XIb (660) 258/XII (446)	24/16
Spain		(CE)288/XIb (660)	010/tox- (010) 056/XII (056)			078/V (078)				4/4
Switzerland					078/V (078) 126/V (126)					2/2
USA		027/IIIb (027) 033/XIa (033) 078/V (078)				002/0 (203) 078/V (078)				5/4
Number of strains (PCR ribotypes) per animal host	5 (4/5)	31 (20/22)	10 (8/9)	3 (3/3)	7 (6/6)	31 (16/20)	11 (10/10)	7 (7/7)	Na (7/7)	Σ112 (38/50)