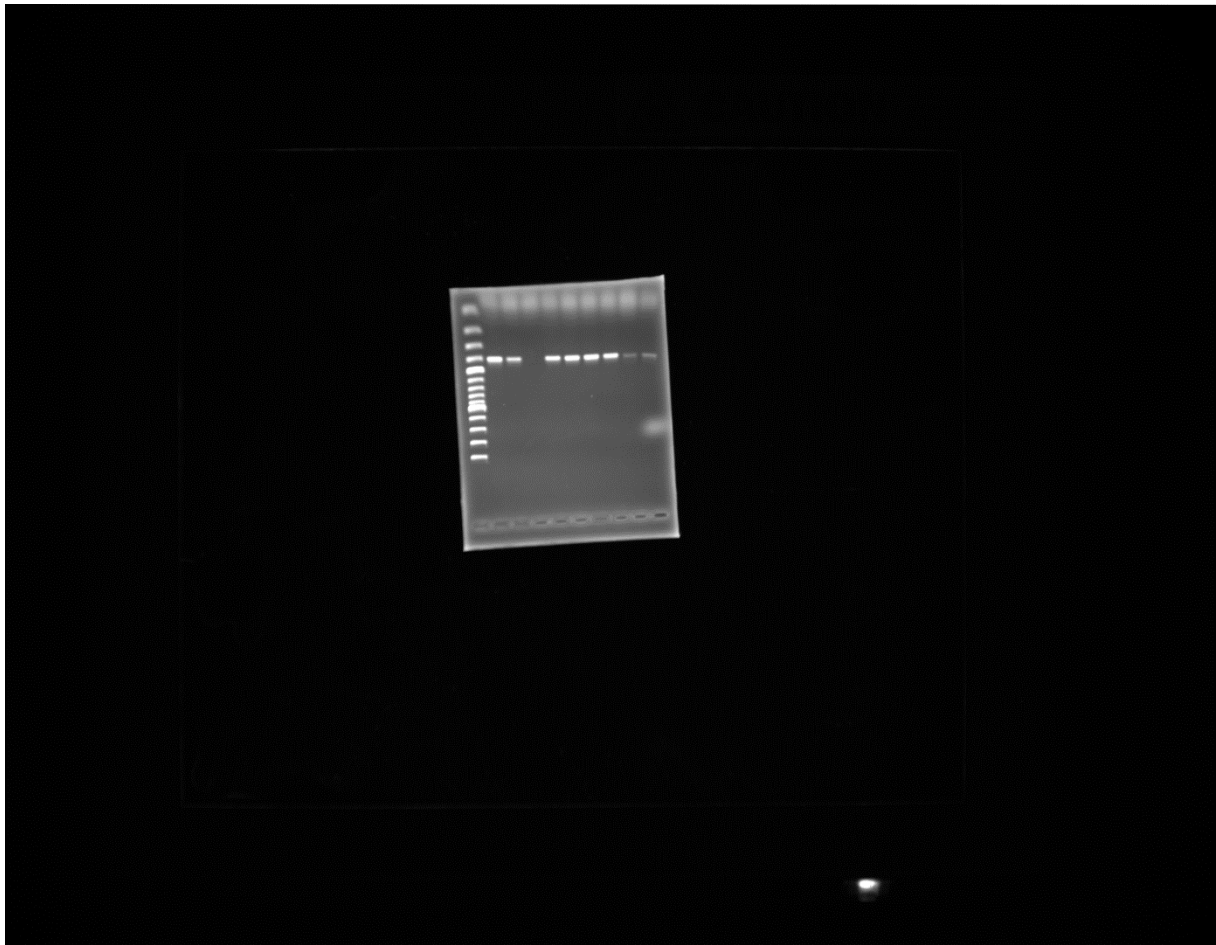
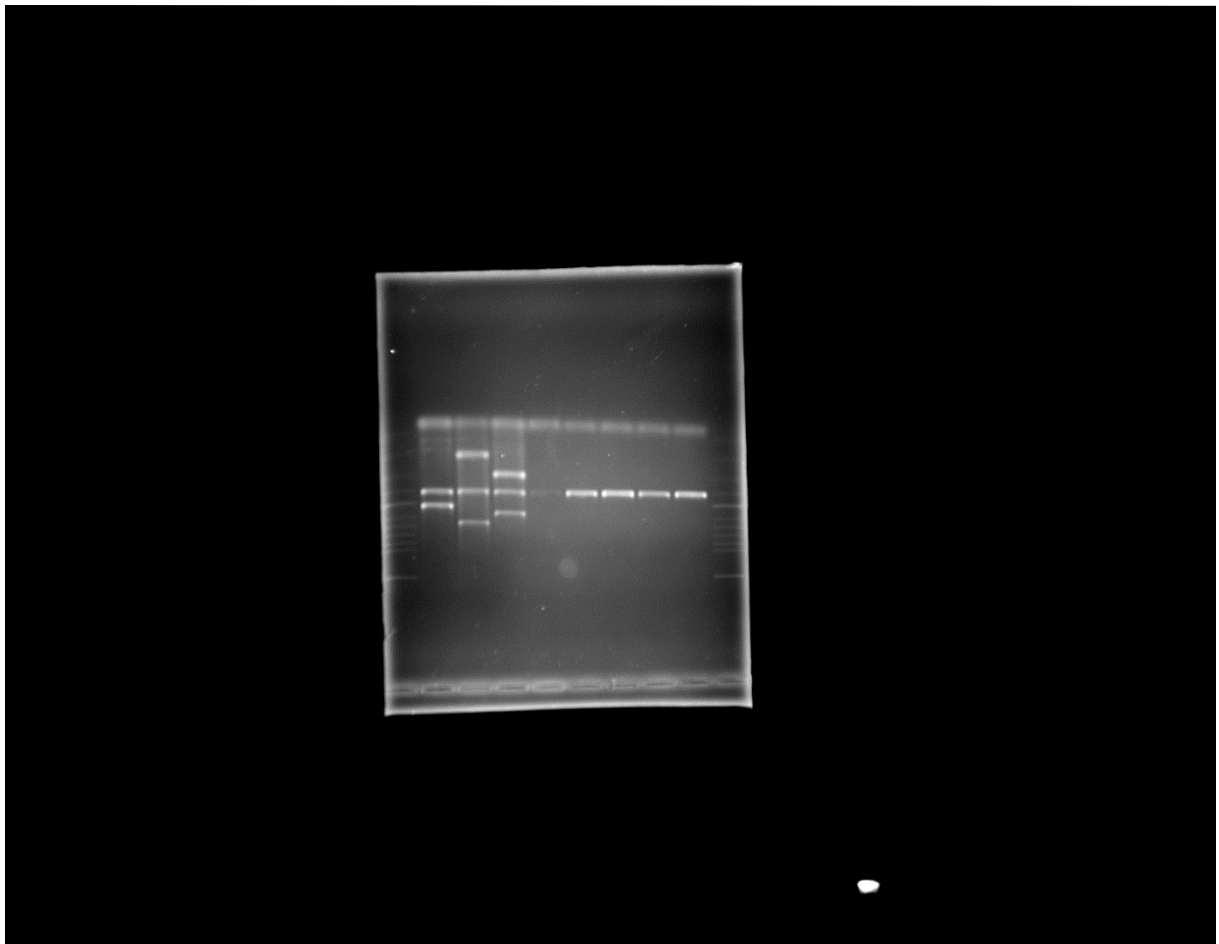
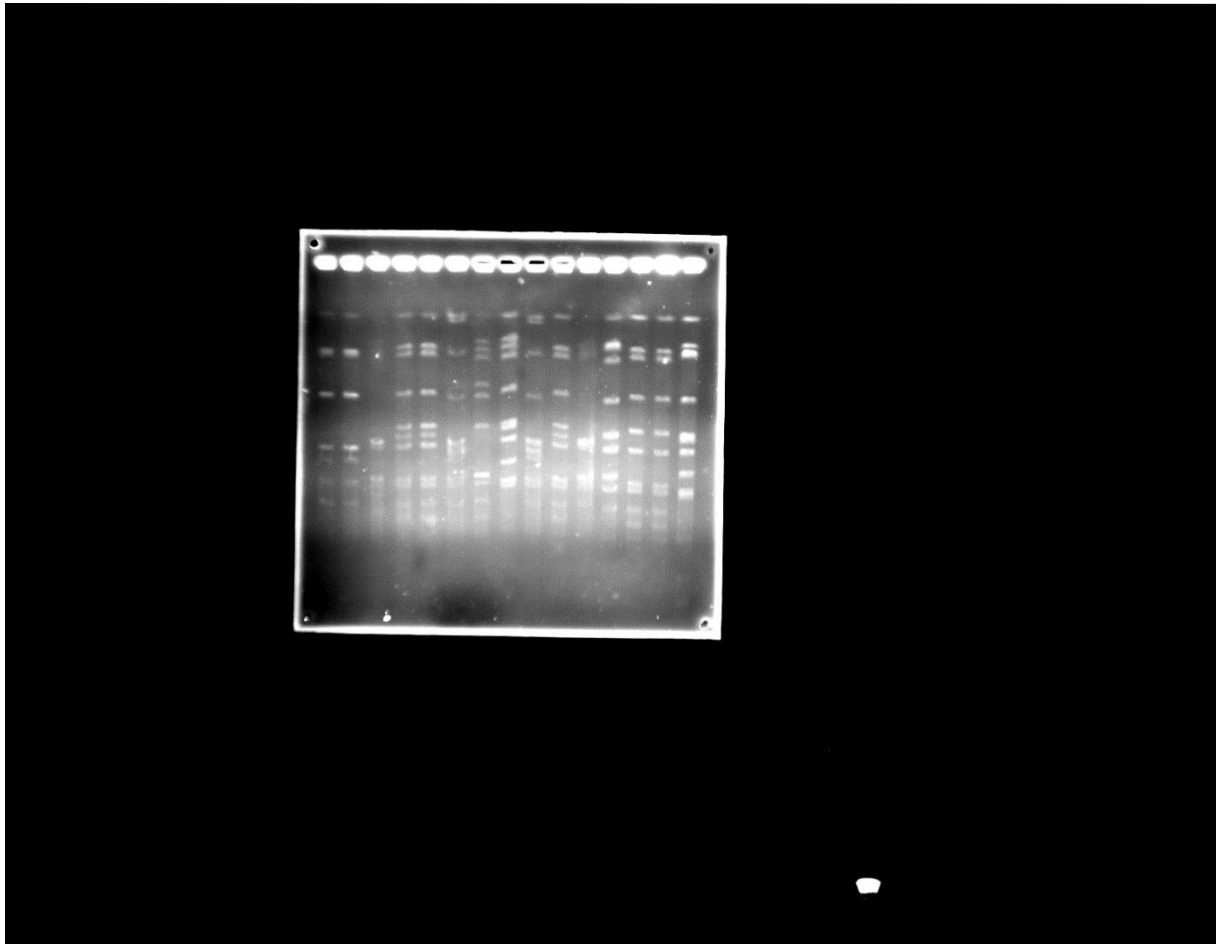




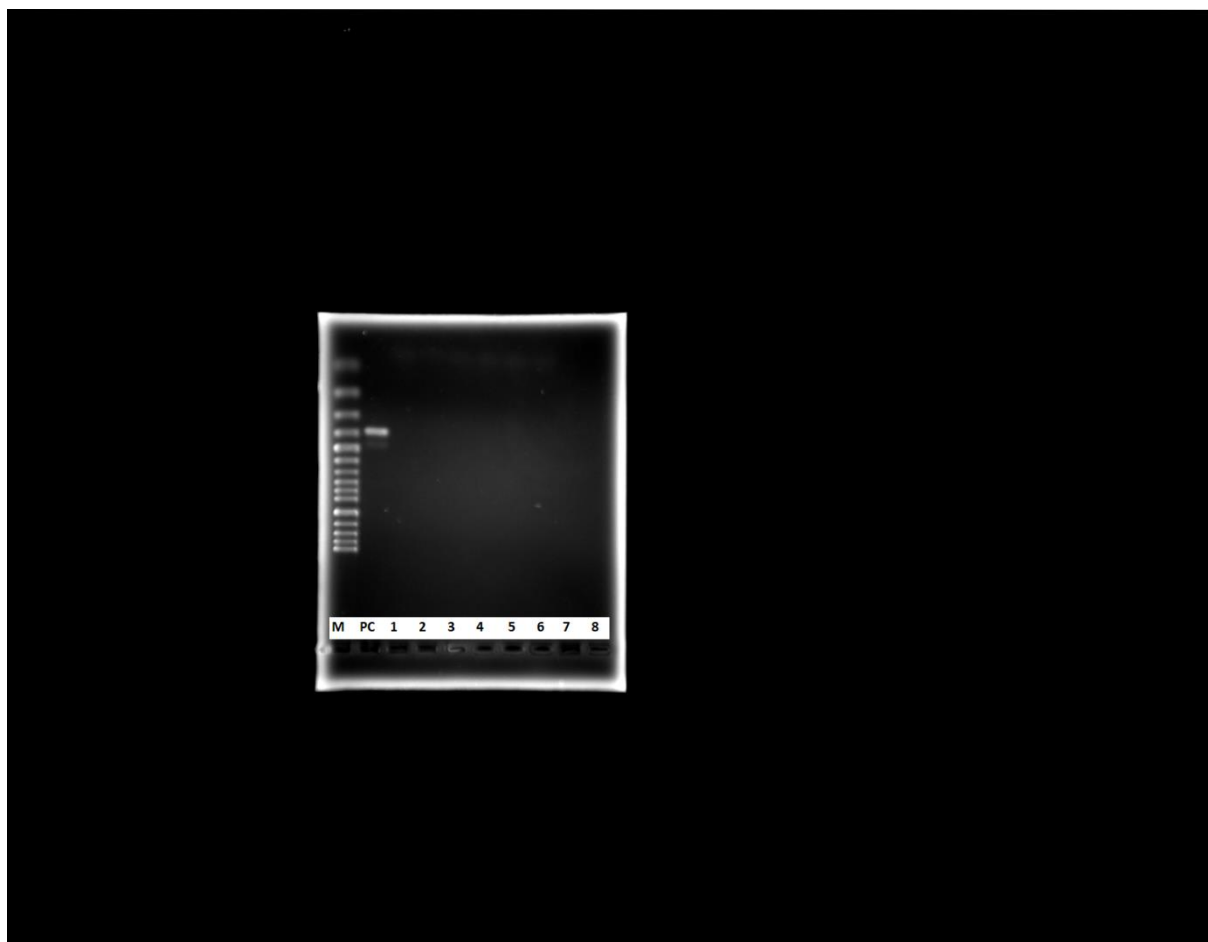
Supplementary Figure 1. Representative uncropped gel image of the alpha-toxin (*p/c*) PCR assay generated during the study period. Multiple PCR runs and technical replicates were performed as part of the doctoral thesis work. This uncropped gel image is provided for data transparency; cropped gel images were included in the main manuscript to improve clarity and readability.



Supplementary Figure 2. Uncropped gel image of the multiplex PCR assay performed for toxin gene screening. As no field isolates were positive for the targeted toxin genes, only positive control bands were obtained. This gel image was not included in the main manuscript figures, where cropped multiplex PCR images were used for improved presentation, and is provided here solely for completeness and data transparency.



Supplementary Figure Sy. Representative PFGE gel image generated during the study period. PFGE results are presented as a dendrogram in the main manuscript; therefore, individual PFGE gel images were not included in the main text. This gel is provided for data transparency only.



Supplementary Figure Sx. *NetB* PCR gel showing the positive control only; no field isolates were positive for the *netB* gene. This gel image was not included in the main manuscript as it did not provide additional information beyond confirmation of the absence of *netB* in field isolates.