SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Diversity of *Lactobacillus* Flora of Stilton Cheese relates to Site of Isolation

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Figure S1 Viable counts (log_{10} cfu ml^{-1}) of stationary phase cells of *L. plantarum* R2 (outer crust), B14 (blue veins) and W30 (white core) in cows’ milk at 4°C after incubating for: (□) 0, (■) 24, and (❑) 48 h. Counts were taken from BHI agar after incubating anaerobically for 48 h at 30°C. Values are means of two independent determinations and error bars are ± standard errors of the means. The milk was spiked with a final cell concentration of: (A) 10^7, (B) 10^4, and (C) 10^2 CFU ml^{-1}. 
**Figure 1**
Figure S2 Dendrogram showing the clustering of 59 Lactobacillus isolates obtained from Stilton cheese. The figure includes corresponding data on site of isolation and presence/absence of the plantaricin EF genes. Similarity values were obtained by UPGMA and the Dice coefficient methods with a 1.5% band position tolerance.

Figure S3 Rec A gene multiplex PCR analysis of Lactobacillus plantarum isolates obtained from Stilton cheese. Lanes 1&14, 100 bp marker; lanes 2&3, Lb. pentosus NCIMB 8026; lanes 4&5, Lb. plantarum NCIMB 318914; lanes 6-11, Lb. plantarum isolates from Stilton cheese: R2 & R4 (outer crust), B13 & B30 (blue veins), and R44 and W30 (white core); lanes 12&13, Lb. brevis isolate from Stilton cheese (negative control). The samples were run on 2% (w/v) agarose gel in 1X TAE buffer for 2 h at 70 V.