Table S1 Quantitative assessment of the stability in the colony opacity phenotypes among the D39s derivatives

| Strain (genotype) | Opacity phenotype of seeding colony | No. of colonies | Percentage of the opaque* |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
|                   |                                    | Opaque | Transparent |                        |
| D39s              | Opaque                             | 100    | 0           | 100                      |
|                   |                                    | 100    | 0           |                          |
|                   |                                    | 100    | 0           |                          |
| D39 ΔfabT         | Opaque                             | 28     | 72          | 19±8                     |
|                   |                                    | 18     | 82          |                          |
|                   |                                    | 12     | 88          |                          |
|                   | Transparent                         | 23     | 77          | 15±7                     |
|                   |                                    | 12     | 88          |                          |
|                   |                                    | 10     | 90          |                          |
| D39C ΔfabT        | Opaque                             | 100    | 0           | 100                      |
|                   |                                    | 100    | 0           |                          |
|                   |                                    | 100    | 0           |                          |
|                   | Transparent                         | 0      | 100         | 0                        |
|                   |                                    | 0      | 100         |                          |
|                   |                                    | 0      | 100         |                          |
| D39 Δcps          | Opaque                             | 40     | 160         | 18±3                     |
|                   |                                    | 42     | 158         |                          |
|                   |                                    | 31     | 169         |                          |
|                   | Transparent                         | 28     | 178         | 17±5                     |
|                   |                                    | 45     | 155         |                          |
|                   |                                    | 29     | 171         |                          |
| D39 Δcps ΔfabT    | Opaque                             | 100    | 0           | 100                      |
|                   |                                    | 98     | 2           |                          |
|                   |                                    | 100    | 0           |                          |

* The averages ± standard deviations were calculated on the basis of the three duplicate plates.