



ISOLATION AND INTERACTION STUDY OF Zn SOLUBILIZING YEASTS IN RICE (*Oryza sativa* L.)

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MOLECULAR IDENTIFICATION

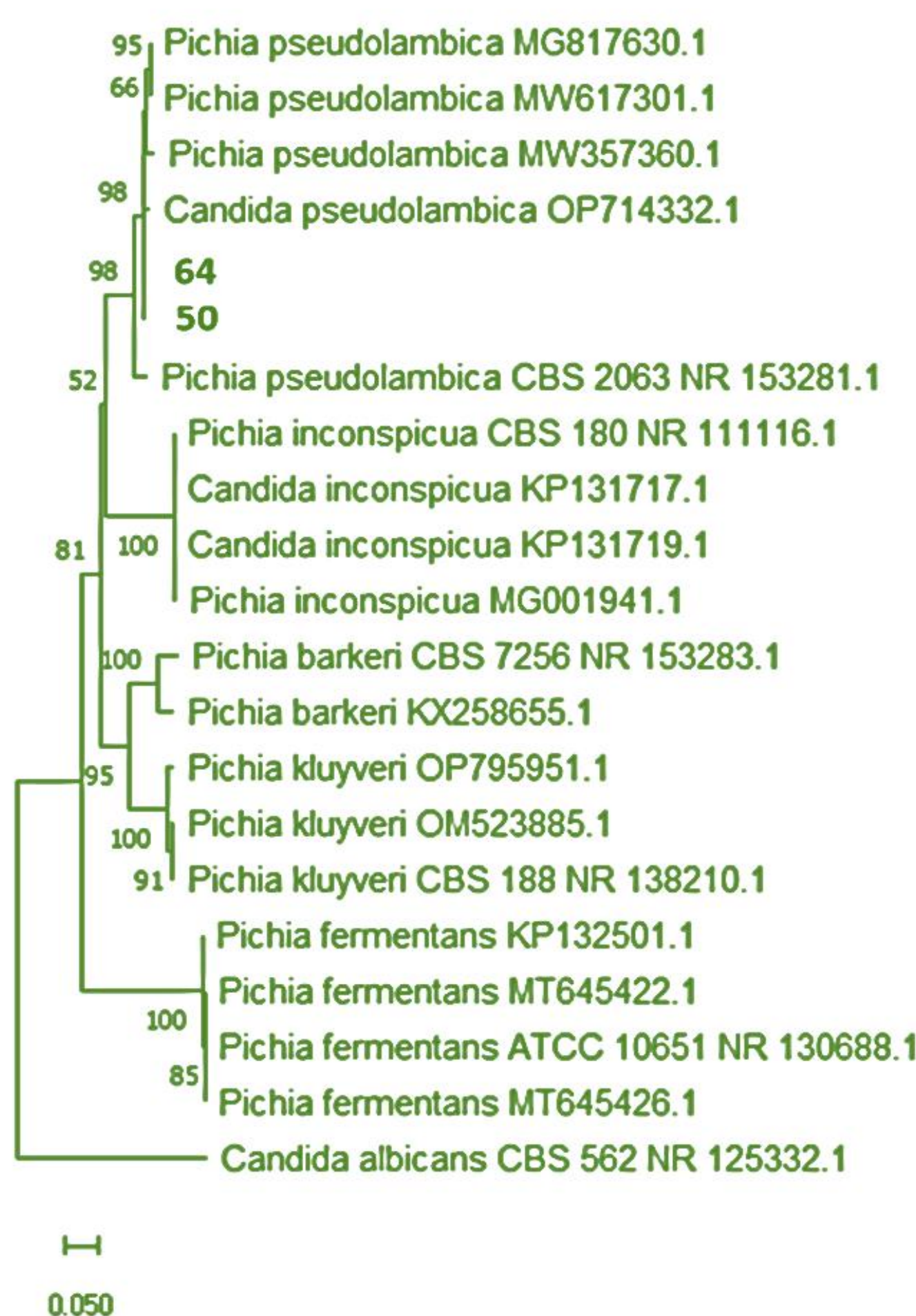


Figure 7: Phylogenetic tree showing the proximity of the ITS region sequences of the two selected isolates to the most closely related species according to the NCBI database.

ISOLATION AND PRESELECTION

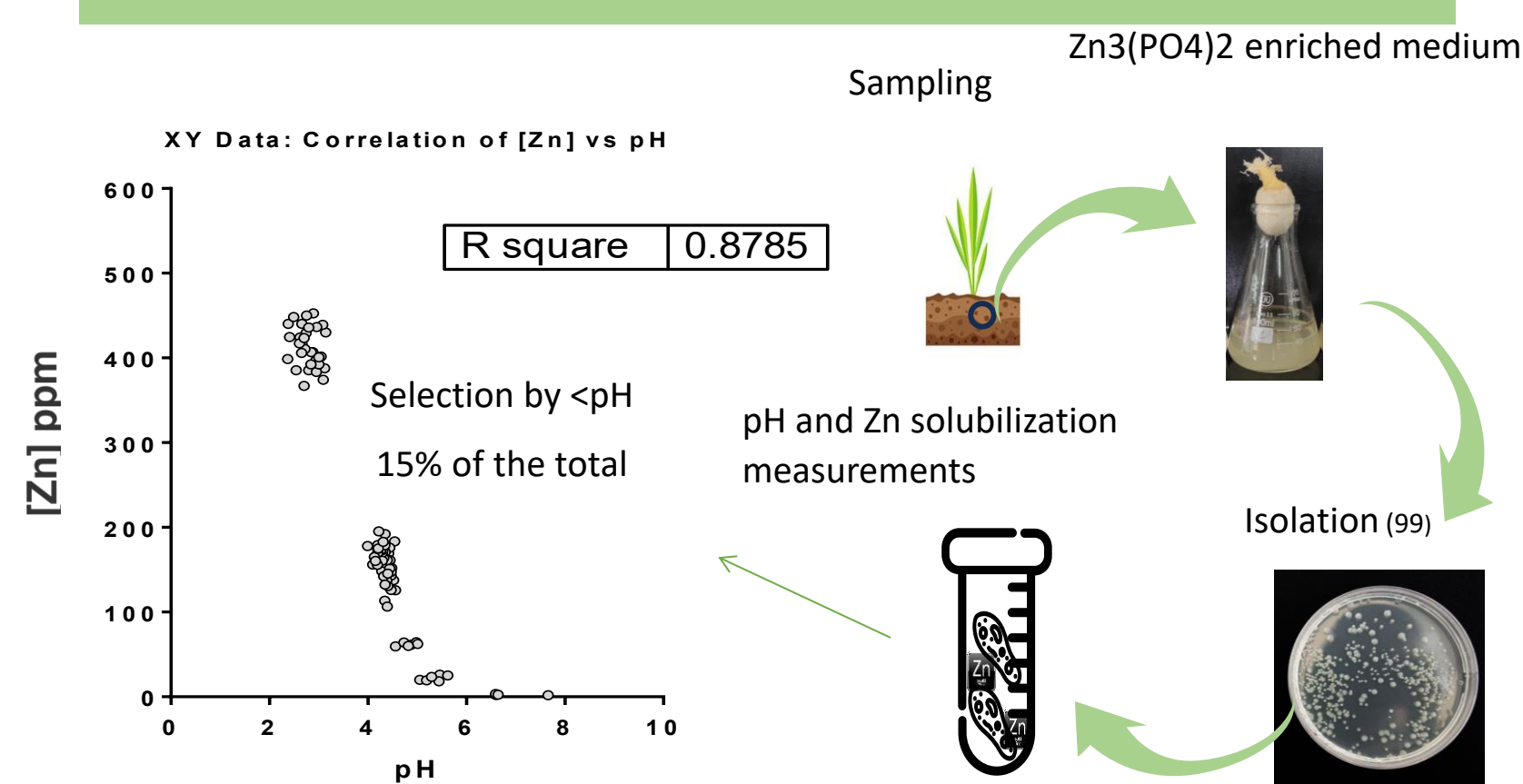


Figure 1: Screening process to select Zn solubilizing bacteria. Right: sampling from rice rhizosphere, enrichment of the medium with Zn₃(PO₄)₂ isolation, pH and Zn mediations. Left: Correlation between solubilized Zn and pH.

PHOSPHORUS SOLUBILIZATION

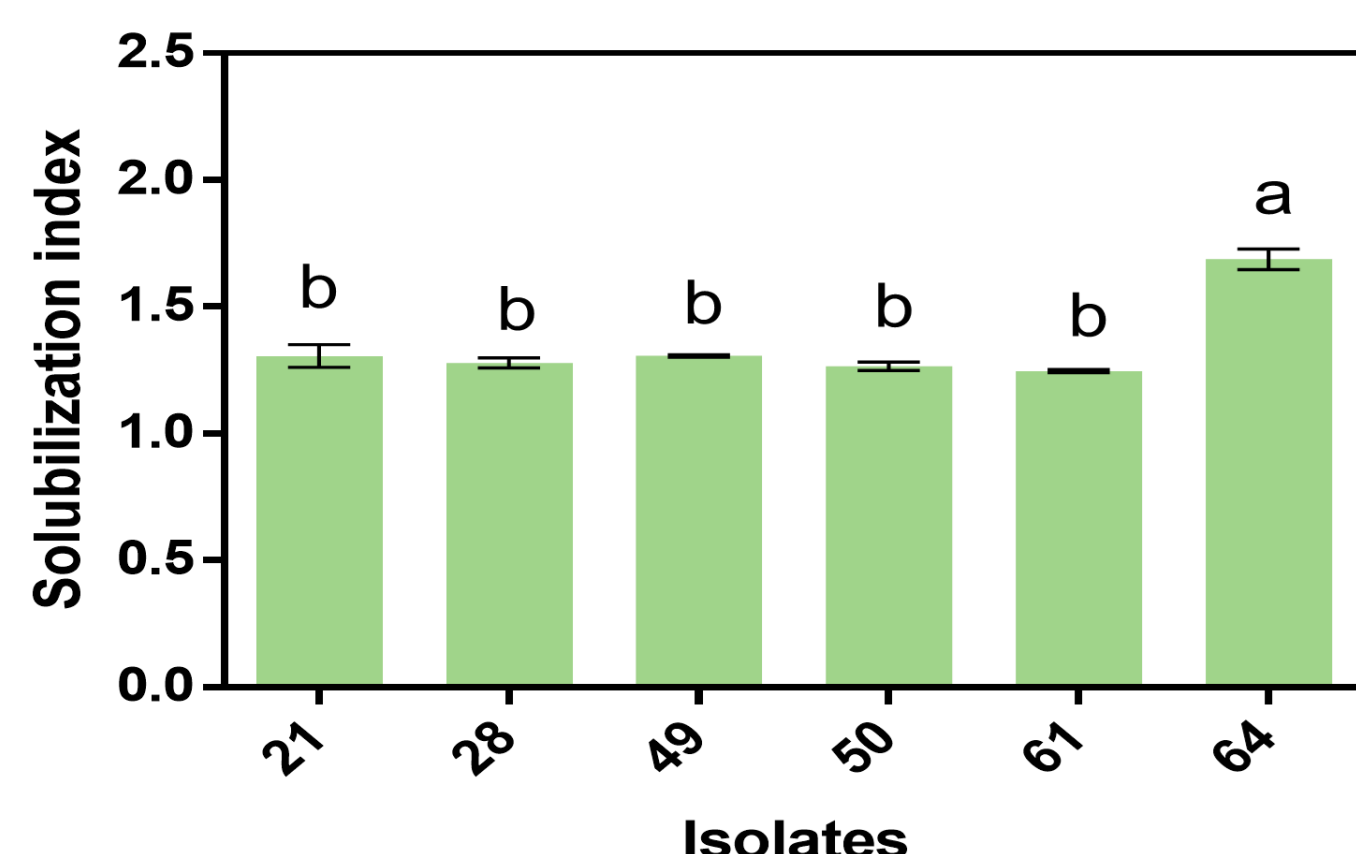


Figure 4: Phosphorus solubilization index (halo area/colony area) in plates with NBRI-P, medium of 7 isolated bacteria from rice rhizosphere.

SELECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF Zn SOLUBILIZING MICROORGANISMS WITH LOW TEMPERATURE AND SALINITY TOLERANCE

SELECTION BY Zn SOLUBILIZING ABILITY

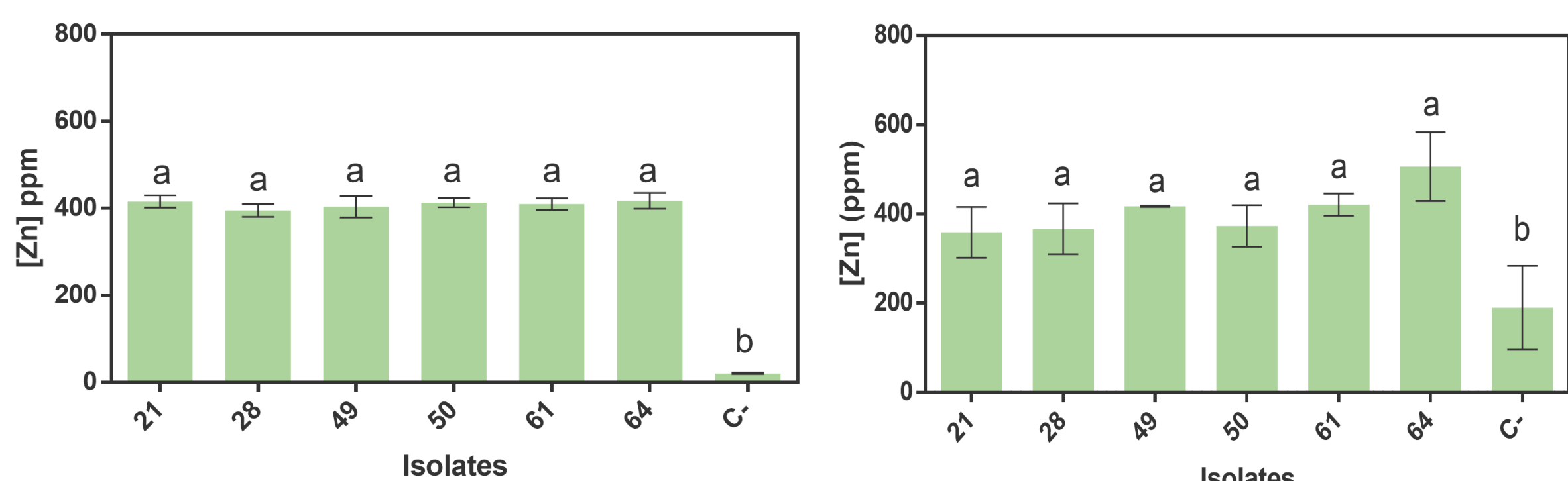


Figure 2: Solubilized Zn (ppm) in liquid medium with Zn₃(PO₄)₂ 0.1%, of 6 isolates from rice rhizosphere. Bars represent means ± S.E.

Figure 3: Solubilized Zn (ppm) in liquid medium with ZnO 0.1%, of 6 isolates from rice rhizosphere. Bars represent means ± S.E.

SELECTION BY GROWTH IN STRESSFUL CONDITIONS OF INTEREST

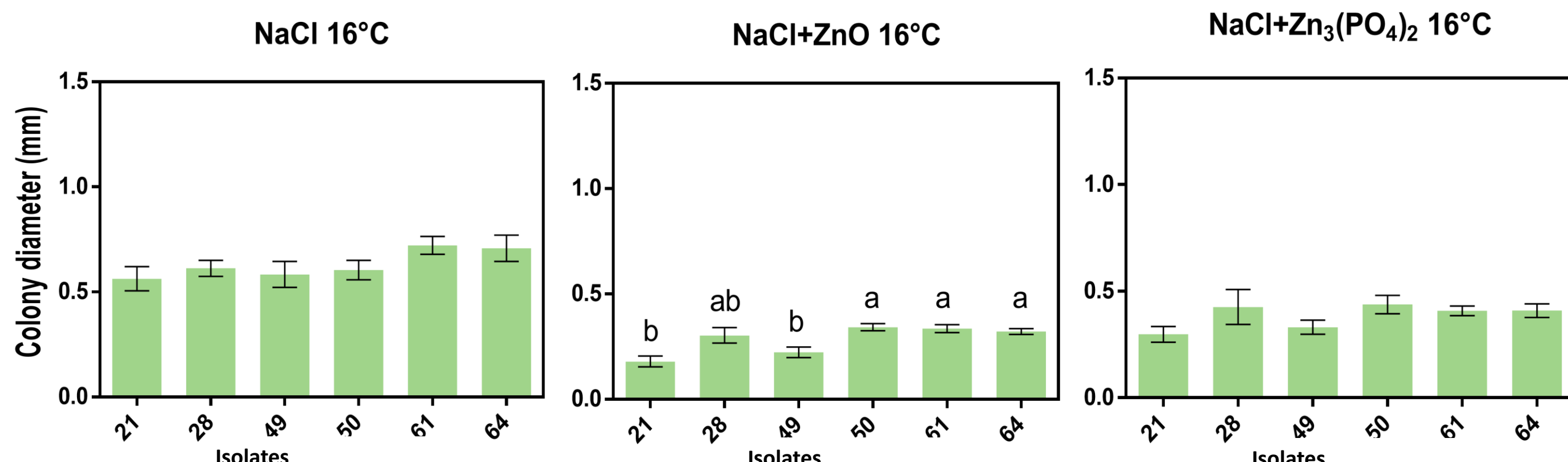


Figure 5: Colony diameter as growth indicator of six selected microorganism in NaCl 0.6M and at 16°C, in two insoluble zinc sources, ZnU (B) and Zn₃(PO₄)₂ (C) and without Zn source (A).

INTERACTION WITH RICE PLANTS

PATHOGENICITY TEST

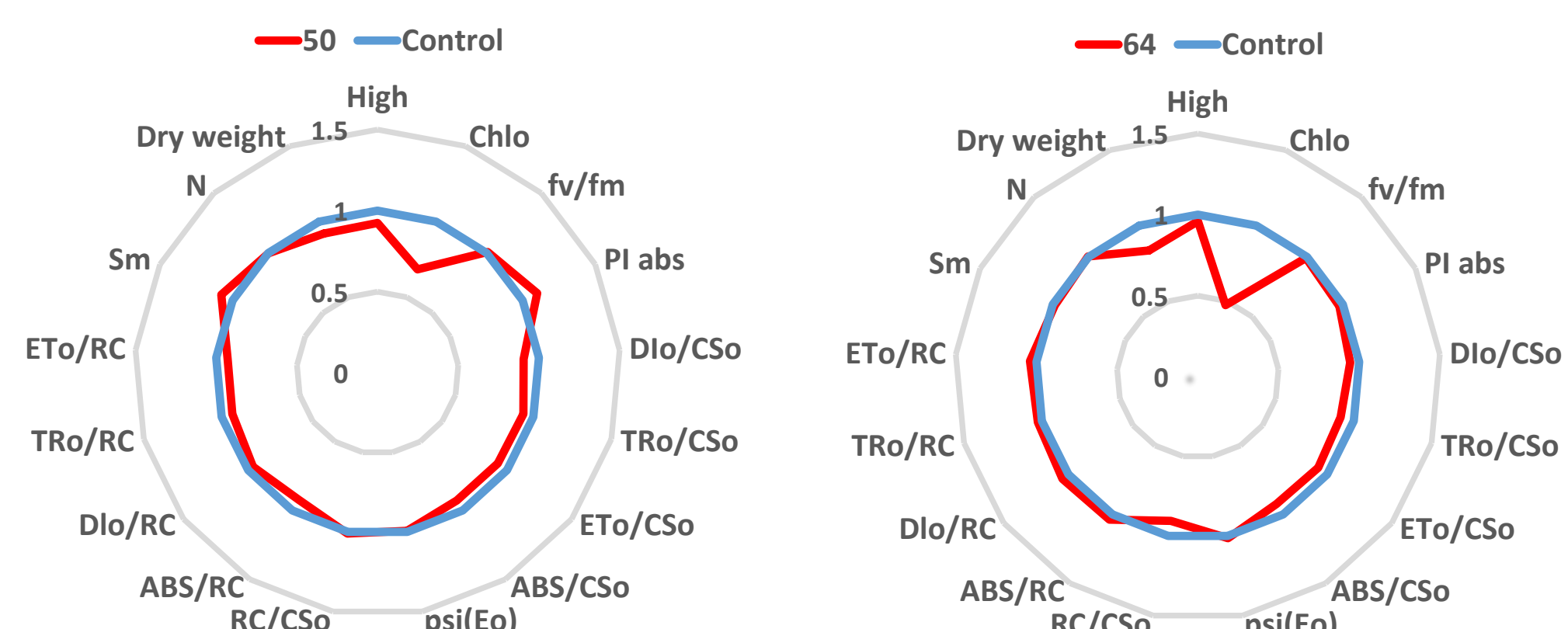


Figure 8: Fluorometric modifications, height and dry weight of rice plants H426-25 with complete substrate, in uninoculated and inoculated plants with strain 50 and 64.

LAB ASSAY

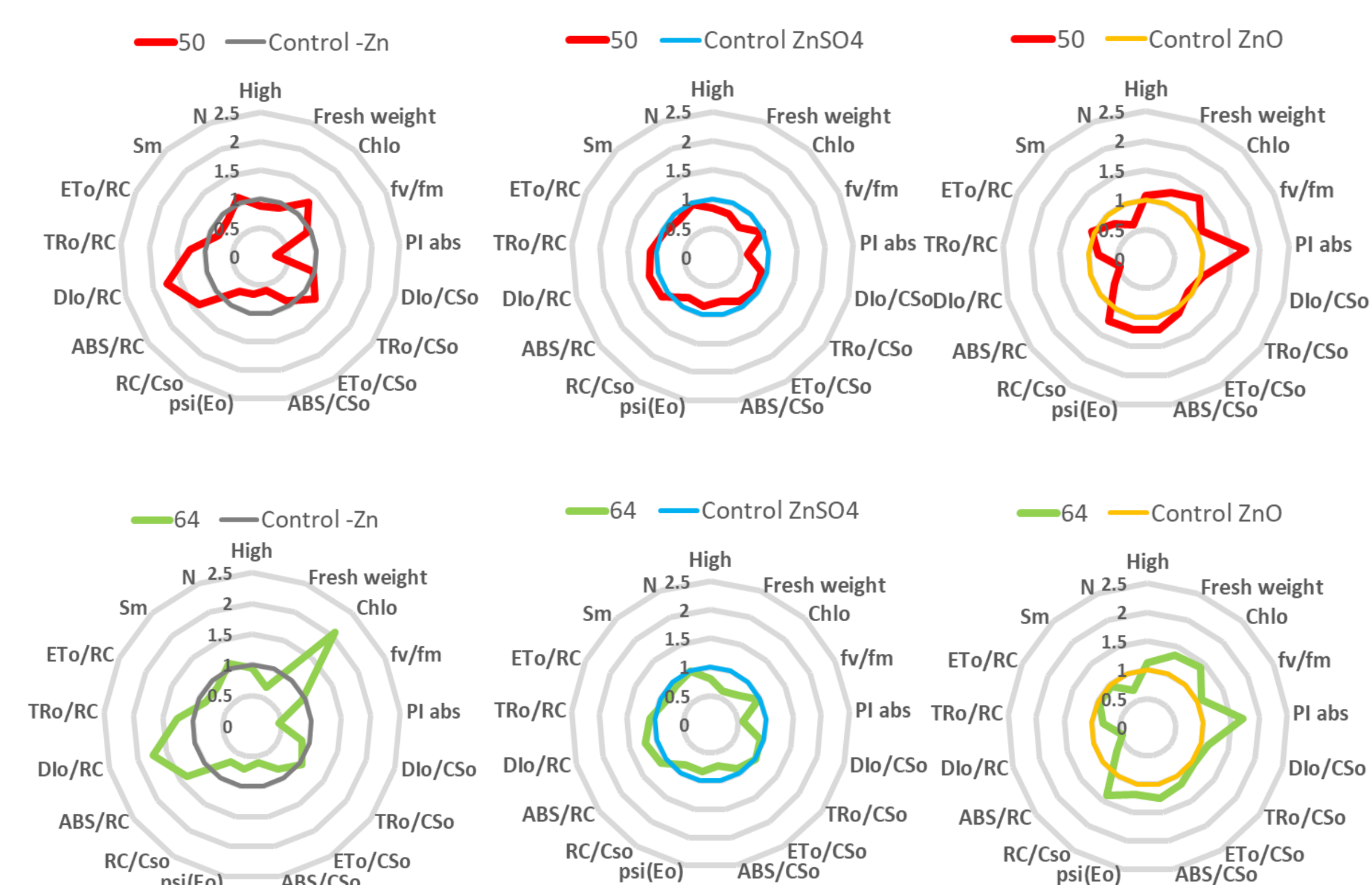


Figure 9: Fluorometric modifications, height and fresh weight of H426-25 rice plants on three different substrates (-Zn, ZnO and ZnSO₄) in uninoculated and inoculated plants with strain 50 and 64.

LOCALIZATION TEST

Table 1: Localization of yeasts 50 and 64 in rice plants of variety H 426-25.

Yeast	Leaves surface	Leaves endophyte	Root surface	Root endophyte
50	NO	NO	YES	YES (168-8771 cfu/mg root)
64	NO	NO	YES	YES (3389-3555 cfu/mg root)

FIELD ASSAY

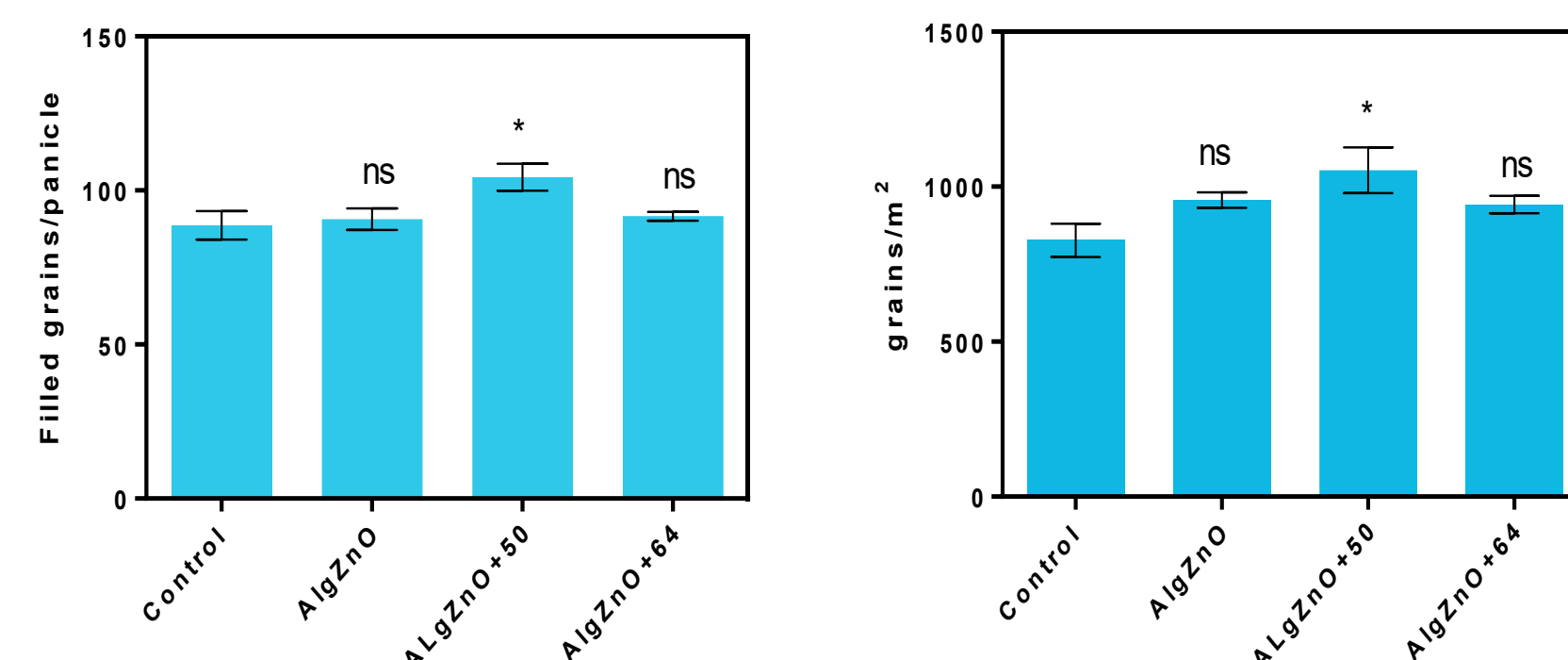


Figure 10: Interaction of yeasts 50 and 64 measured through filled grains and grains/m²

CONCLUSIONS

- All six selected isolates exhibited high zinc solubilization capacity with the tested Zn sources
- Isolate 64 demonstrated greater phosphorus solubilization ability compared to the other strains
- Strains 28, 50, 61, and 64 showed higher tolerance to low temperatures and salinity than strains 21 and 49.
- The selected isolates were accurately identified as *Pichia pseudolambica* strains through BLAST analysis of the ITS and 16S regions using the NCBI database
- Both strains were found to colonize the rhizoplane as well as the internal tissues of rice roots
- Pathogenicity assays indicated no detrimental effects of the yeasts on rice plants under optimal nutrient conditions
- The yeasts *Pichia pseudolambica* CdU 50 and CdU 64 exhibited promising biotechnological potential as plant growth-promoting agents in rice under zinc-deficient soils in laboratory conditions
- Pichia pseudolambica* CdU 50 significantly increased filled grains per panicle and grains per m² in zinc-deficient soil under field conditions
- Since the field trial was conducted only once, further studies are recommended to validate the biotechnological potential of the yeasts at this level