**Table S3.** Properties of 454 Roche GS-FLX pyrosequencing run of the V6-16S rRNA amplicon libraries obtained from two tick pools.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Amplicon 454 library** | **Type of DNA** | **Run on**  **454 GS-FLX** | **Total No.**  **of reads** | **Total base pair** | **Read average length (bp)** |
| Pool of *I. ricinus* nymphs | V6 region-16S rRNA  Primer A-B | Multiplex  on half plate | 281,327 | 54,858,765 | 194.0 |
| Pool of *I. ricinus* adults | V6 region-16S rRNA  Primer A-B | Multiplex  on half plate | 265,778 | 51,295,154 | 193.9 |