**Table S1. *E. coli* strains**

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| Strain | Description | Source or Reference |
|  |  |  |
| JG280 | ETEC O149: K88(F4) strain, positive for K88, *elt*, *estA*, and *estB* | 18 |
| JFF4 | *E. coli* strain, positive for K88 but negative for *elt*, *estA*, and *estB* | 19 |
| DH5α-T1R | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring plasmid pCR®4-TOPO®, used as a cloning host | Invitrogen |
| DH5α-STa | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring enterotoxin gene *estA* in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |
| DH5α-STb | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring enterotoxin gene *estB* in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |
| DH5α-LT | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring enterotoxin gene *elt* in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |
| DH5α-opSTa | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring enterotoxin gene *estA* with a opposite orientation in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |
| DH5α-opLT | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring enterotoxin gene *elt* with a opppsite orientation in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |
| DH5α-16SrRNA | *E. coli* DH5α-T1R harboring a part of 16SrRNA gene from *E. coli* in plasmid pCR®4-TOPO® | This study |