

Table S5.6 Metabolites and their relevant information

Metabolite	Properties	References
2-Aminopimelic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- forms lysine and contributes to cell wall structure in bacteria.</li> <li>- involved in plant morphogenesis.</li> <li>- likely associated with the cnidarian microbiome or translocated from the symbionts.</li> </ul>	(Berges et al., 1986; Valmaseda et al., 2005; Tabeta and Hirai, 2024)
2-Hydroxyglutaric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- high levels in humans are associated with metabolic disorders.</li> <li>- metabolite is differentially expressed in Aiptasia colonised with different symbiont types.</li> <li>- implications for T-cell differentiation.</li> </ul>	(Tyrakis et al., 2016; Yamada et al., 2019; Du and Hu, 2021; Lust, 2022; Tsang Min Ching et al., 2022)
3-Aminoglutaric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the precursor of glutamine synthase which is important for nitrogen assimilation, amino acid synthesis and cellular metabolism.</li> <li>- commonly found in bacteria and plants.</li> <li>- likely associated with the cnidarian microbiome or translocated from the symbionts.</li> </ul>	(Patrice et al., 2001; Ito et al., 2022)
Galacturonic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- found in plants and has anti-inflammatory properties.</li> <li>- produced by Symbiodiniaceae and may be important in symbiosis establishment and recognition.</li> <li>- likely translocated from the symbiont to the host.</li> </ul>	(Gerschenson, 2017; Tortorelli et al., 2022)
Gluconic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- involved in glucose metabolism, and antioxidant NADPH production through the pentose phosphate pathway.</li> <li>- found in the Aiptasia metabolome.</li> <li>- increased only at T4 and not T16 in the current study.</li> </ul>	(MIETTINEN and LESKINEN, 1970; Matthews et al., 2017)
Glycolic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increases in aposymbiotic vs. symbiotic Aiptasia.</li> <li>- has anti-inflammatory properties by modulation of NFkB pathways and pro-inflammatory cytokines, however it can also induce apoptosis.</li> </ul>	(Yang et al., 2004; Tang et al., 2017; Lust, 2022)
Pantothenic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increases in aposymbiotic Aiptasia and Aiptasia colonised with heterologous symbionts vs. Aiptasia colonised with homologous symbionts.</li> <li>- precursor of CoA.</li> <li>- CoA can lead to the formation of triglycerides, phospholipids, antioxidants, cysteine and methionine.</li> </ul>	(Wada and Takagi, 2006; Matthews, 2017; Aloum et al., 2019; Chandel, 2021; Mignani et al., 2021; Filonenko and Gout, 2023)
Phosphoric acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increases in aposymbiotic Aiptasia.</li> <li>- involved in cellular signalling, and the production of ATP, phospholipids and triglycerides.</li> </ul>	(Stillwell, 2016; Matthews, 2017; Kritmetapak and Kumar, 2021; Choi et al., 2023)
Rhamnose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- usually found in bacteria, plants and fungi.</li> <li>- likely associated with the cnidarian microbiome or translocated from the symbionts.</li> <li>- found in plant and bacterial cell walls and increases in bacteria and plants under stressful conditions to adapt membrane structure or as an antioxidant defense.</li> </ul>	(Williams et al., 2004; Hillyer, 2016; Dastogeer et al., 2017; Jiang et al., 2021; Nguyen et al., 2021; Song et al., 2021)
Ribonic acid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sugar involved in ribose metabolism and production of nucleotides.</li> <li>- found in coral <i>Montipora capitata</i> metabolome.</li> <li>- increases in humans with diabetes</li> </ul>	(Ding et al., 2017; Matthews, 2017; Tofte et al., 2019; Curovic et al., 2020)
Sedoheptulose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sugar that is important for the production of nucleotides and is an intermediate in the pentose phosphate pathway.</li> <li>- mainly produced in plants.</li> <li>- likely translocated from the symbionts.</li> <li>- increased only at T4 and not T16 in the current study.</li> </ul>	(Benson et al., 1951)
Tryptamine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a group of monoamines that includes serotonin and melatonin that are well-studied in vertebrates but less studied in invertebrates.</li> <li>- increases in marine invertebrates, including cnidarians under stressful conditions</li> </ul>	(da Silveira et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2018)

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