The status of the species *Bacillus aerophilus* and *Bacillus stratosphericus*. Request for an Opinion

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During a study assessing the diversity of the *Bacillus pumilus* group it became apparent that the type strains of both *Bacillus aerophilus* and *Bacillus stratosphericus* were not available from any established culture collection, nor from the authors who originally described them. Therefore, type strains of these species cannot be included in any further scientific studies. It is therefore proposed that the Judicial Commission of the International Committee of Systematics of Prokaryotes place the names *Bacillus aerophilus* and *Bacillus stratosphericus* on the list of rejected names, if suitable replacements for the type strains are not found or if neotype strains are not proposed within two years following the publication of this Request for an Opinion.

Thus, the type strains of both *B. aerophilus* and *B. stratosphericus* originally described by Shivaji et al. (2006) no longer exist. According to Rule 18c of the International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria (Lapage et al., 1992), if suitable replacements for the type strains cannot be found or if neotype strains cannot be proposed, within two years of the publication of this Request for an Opinion, it is proposed that the Judicial Commission of the International Committee of Systematics of Prokaryotes places the names *Bacillus aerophilus* and *Bacillus stratosphericus* on the list of rejected names.

REFERENCES

