**Additional File 3**. Comparison of fresh weigh (∆FW) and number of leaves (∆NL) increases of *E. purpurea* (Ep) control and infected plants. ∆FW and ∆NL are reported as mean values (5 plants in triplicate) and calculated after 30 days. Abbreviations: R, root; RS, rizosphere; S/L, stem/leaves; ns, not significant.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Strain** | **Genus** | ***E. purpurea* plants** |
| **∆FW** (mean ± SD) |  | **∆NL** (mean ± SD) |  |
|  |  | Control | Infected | *P t-test value* | Control | Infected | *Pt-test value* |
| **Ep R37**  | *Pseudomonas* sp. | 1.43 ± 0.35 | 2.30 ± 0.61 | 0.05 | 1.50 ± 1.32 | 0.55 ± 0.39 | ns |
| **Ep R58**  | *Pseudomonas* sp. | 1.40 ± 0.40 | 1.72 ± 1.12 | ns | 1.50 ± 1.32 | 0.83 ± 0.28 | ns |
| **Ep RS66** | *Arthrobacter* sp. | 1.92 ± 0.79 | 1.98 ± 0.62 | ns | 1.07 ± 0.22 | 0.96 ± 0.27 | ns |
| **Ep RS71** | *Arthrobacter* sp. | 1.92 ± 0.79 | 1.81 ± 0.57 | ns | 1.07 ± 0.22 | 0.97 ± 0.29 | ns |
| **Ep S/L16**  | *Arthrobacter* sp. | 0.71 ± 0.38 | 0.76 ± 0.24 | ns | 0.27 ± 0.20 | 0.94 ± 0.61 | 0.01 |
| **Ep S/L27** | *Arthrobacter* sp. | 0.85 ± 0.51 | 0.60 ± 0.47 | ns | 0.38 ± 0.23 | 0.48 ± 0.26 | ns |